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# ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS IN KOREA

Articles Reprinted from  
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## FOREWORD

This pamphlet contains leading articles published by the *Seoul Press* dealing with reforms in administration in Chosen (Korea) introduced since the Government-General of Chosen was reorganized with Baron Saito as Governor-General in August, 1919. These articles will, the Editor hopes, give their readers some idea of the situation in this peninsula and what measures the Government has taken to meet it.

Editor, the *Seoul Press*.

Seoul, November 10, 1919.

# THE KOREAN "INDEPENDENCE" AGITATION.

Price 20 *Sen*, Postage free.

*The London and China Express* etc.  
Sept. 4, 1919, says:—

*The Korean Independence Agitation* (Seoul Press Chosen) is the title of an interesting booklet which has come to hand. Its contents are made up of a series of articles which originally appeared in the *Seoul Press*. The articles are particularly interesting, as throwing a somewhat new light upon the alleged stories of atrocities committed towards those Koreans who took part in the disturbances. The view is advanced that it is unjust to think that the excesses committed by the police and others in suppressing the outbreak had the approval of the higher Japanese authorities. Emphasis is also given to the fact that many of the stories of atrocities committed by the Japanese were very much exaggerated by people with a strong anti-Japanese bias, and that the brutality was not always on one side. There is of course a natural tendency among many people to sympathise with the weak against the strong, but this inclination ought not to influence our sense of justice. The booklet performs a useful purpose by supplying what appears to be a perfectly impartial rendering of events which in the past have no doubt been distorted by prejudice and passion.

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Published by the "Seoul Press" Office,  
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## Administrative Reforms in Chosen.

### Interview with New Governor-General.

(Thursday, Sept. 4)

In an interview granted the day before yesterday on board the special train to a representative of ours by Admiral Baron Saito,\* the new Governor-General of Chosen, on his way from Fusan to Seoul, His Excellency gave an outline of the administrative reforms he was determined to carry out in Chosen. Baron Saito has had a long and distinguished service in the Imperial Navy and was Minister of the Navy for many years. Nevertheless he is a most democratic man and a very broad-minded statesman with remarkably liberal views. He is extremely modest in manner, speaks excellent English, is a good listener, and is possessed of a most charming personality. He makes all who come in contact with him at once feel at home.

\* For a life sketch of Baron Saito, see Appendix A.

His Excellency began by saying that though under Imperial command he had assumed the heavy duty and responsibility of Governor-General of Chosen at a time when the situation was very grave and weighty problems awaited solution, he feared whether he could successfully discharge his duty to the satisfaction of his Imperial master and up to the expectation of the nation. He was, however, determined to put forth his best efforts in the execution of his duty, devoting himself heart and soul to the task assigned him. The fundamental administrative policy of Chosen, he said, was clearly set forth in the Imperial Rescript granted by the late Emperor Meiji at the time of annexation ten years ago. The organization of the Government-General of Chosen hitherto in force, and all the administrative measures taken by it, were all aimed at the realization of the Imperial idea embodied in that rescript. Thanks to the efforts strenuously and faithfully put forth by his predecessors, peace was maintained for a long time, the welfare of the Korean people was promoted, and education, industry, sanitary and social

relief work and so forth were highly developed in Chosen. Nevertheless it was found in the course of the ten years that have elapsed since annexation that some of these institutions and measures, which were once pertinent and effective, had become out of date and inappropriate to the existing conditions in Chosen on account of the progress and change of the times. For this reason, the Government had now taken steps to revise the organization of the Government-General of Chosen and introduce some radical reforms into its administrative policy.

The object of these reforms, Baron Saito went on to say, was, as clearly expressed in the Imperial Rescript\* granted a few weeks ago, to facilitate the work

of the Government-General of Chosen, so that it could carry out administrative measures appropriate to the actual needs and condition of the peninsula, and give to all its inhabitants such administration as would enable them to enjoy peaceful and happy lives, develop themselves, and ultimately become the equals of the people living in Japan Proper in all political rights. In other words, it was intended to realize and accomplish all that was aimed at by annexation. To mention a few of these reforms, both civilians and military men were made eligible for the post of Governor-General, the policing by the gendarmerie was to cease and be carried on by the ordinary police, the regulation requiring officials and teachers to wear uniforms

\* This Imperial Rescript was granted on August 20. It reads :

We have ever made it Our aim to promote the security and welfare of Our territory of Chosen, and to extend to the native population of that territory, as Our beloved subjects, a fair and impartial treatment in all respects, to the end that they may without distinction of persons lead their lives in peace and in contentment.

We are persuaded that the stage of development at which the general situation has now arrived calls for certain reforms in the administrative organization of the Government-General of Chosen, and We hereby command that such reforms be put into operation.

The measures thus taken are solely designed

to facilitate the working of administration, and to secure good and enlightened government, in pursuance of Our settled policy, and fulfilment of the altered requirements of the country. Especially in view of the termination of the war in Europe and of rapid changes in the conditions of the world, We consider it highly desirable that every effort should be made for the advancement of the national resources and the well-being of the people.

We call upon all the public functionaries concerned to exercise their best endeavours, in obedience to Our wishes, in order that a benign rule may be assured to Chosen and that the people, diligent and happy in attending to their respective vocations, may enjoy the blessings of peace and contribute to the growing prosperity of the country.

and swords was done away with and ways were opened for Koreans of talent and ability to obtain official appointments, promotion, and good treatment. It was hoped that by carrying out all these reform measures, the Korean people would be offered better and more opportunities than hitherto to develop themselves until they became the equals of the Japanese people at home in every respect, and then be given equal political and social treatment.

"May I ask what practical steps your Excellency intends to take to carry out these ideas?" asked our representative.

In reply, Baron Saito said: "That I am now unable to state in a definite way. I must first study conditions in Chosen before deciding on what steps should be taken to eradicate things which are wrong, improve things needing revision, and introduce new things required. But I cherish some fundamental principles, to which I am determined to adhere in carrying out my ideas. These are:

"First, I shall endeavour to unify all Government organs, establish thorough and smooth connections

between them, and make them work as one man. There shall be absolutely no different views and policies among them, but all of them shall be in complete understanding with each other and act in concert, so that people may place complete confidence in the justice, impartiality, and honesty of the government.

"Secondly, I want to introduce some reforms in administration in conformity with the progress of the times as well as with the trend of popular thought. In order to accomplish this, it is my intention to lay particular importance on the following four points:—

"(a) All formality and superficiality in administration shall be done away with, and laws and regulations shall be enforced not in form but in spirit. People should be made to understand in a thorough way the object with which any administrative measure is adopted.

"(b) All red tapeism shall be strictly avoided and official business be done with despatch and simplicity.

"(c) Ways shall be opened for people to express their desires and dissatisfaction. There shall be no arbitrary interference in the freedom of speech and the press,

or in that of meetings and associations, as long as these do not stand in the way of the maintenance of peace and order.

“(d) Reforms shall be introduced in the administration of education, industry, police affairs, sanitary and social work, and so forth. It is intended to introduce some new features in making life and property securer and in promoting popular happiness. Above all, inasmuch as the improvement of popular manners and customs and the advancement of popular strength and resources depend greatly on the ability of the people to govern themselves, it is intended to put in force local self-government at some opportune time in future. With this in view, the study and investigation thereanent will immediately be taken up.”

Baron Saito added that all these reforms and improvements would be introduced not with the idea of playing to the gallery but with the sincere desire to correct past blunders and eradicate existing evils. He had no desire to extinguish anything that was good in the old manners and customs of the Korean people. He was a great admirer of the old Korean civili-

sation and intended to encourage and promote the study of the old Korean manners and customs, traditions and literature, as well as Korean history. It was his idea gradually to introduce reforms and improvements, while paying due respect to the old ideas and usages of the Korean people.

Asked what he thought of foreign missionaries and their work in Chosen and what attitude he intended to adopt towards them, Baron Saito replied:—

“I entertain nothing but good feeling and respect towards them and consider their work as highly beneficial and helpful in the maintenance of peace and the promotion of public welfare. There is no denying that they have rendered excellent service in the spiritual and educational uplifting of the Korean people. I regard them as our good friends and strong allies. With this idea, I never dream of hindering their work even in the slightest way, but shall try to give them facilities in carrying it on. I shall always be glad to meet them and hear their opinions. I need, however, scarcely say that they must strictly abstain from interfering in political matters.”

In concluding the interview with our representative, Baron Saito asked him to convey his earnest desire to the Japanese living in Chosen that they would treat their Korean neighbours with brotherly love and sincerity, and endeavour to assist and uplift them so that they would strive to make themselves worthy subjects of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

### Dastardly Attempt on New Governor-General's Life.\*

(Thursday, Sept. 4)

It was indeed fortunate that Baron Saito, the new Governor-

General, escaped, though narrowly, from a would-be assassin's bomb on Tuesday afternoon. Not only for the Governor-General himself, but for Japan and the Korean people, his escape is certainly a matter for sincere congratulation and deep thankfulness. For His Excellency is a great statesman, whose loss would have been a great national misfortune, and he has come here with not the slightest idea of oppressing the Korean people, but with the determination to give them a most liberal administration, and to uplift and make them happier. Had he fallen a victim to the das-

\* This outrage was reported by the *Seoul Press* as follows :—

An extraordinary bomb outrage greeted the arrival at Nandaimon Station of Baron Saito, new Governor-General, and Dr Mizuno, new Administrative Superintendent, on Tuesday evening. A bomb was thrown at them as Their Excellencies left the station, where they were cordially received by representative ladies and gentlemen in Seoul, for their carriages together with their wives and private secretaries. It fell just between their carriages, and exploded with a tremendous noise. Several persons, who were near, were thrown to the ground. Baron Saito and Dr. Mizuno, however, received no hurt and quietly drove to the Governor-General's official residence.

Twenty-nine persons were injured more or less seriously. The list of injured includes Mrs. Harrison of America, Major-General Murata, Mr. Kubo, Director of the Seoul Office of the S. M. R. C., Mr. Komuda, Chief of the Honmachi Police Station, Captain (retired) Nozu, formerly Adjutant to the Military Headquarters at Yongsan, Mr. Tachibana, Seoul correspondent of the *Osaka*

*Asahi*, and Mr. Yamaguchi, Seoul correspondent of the *Osaka Mainichi*, the two last mentioned gentlemen being in a precarious condition.

The bomb-thrower made good his escape, but by persons, who happened to observe him, he is described as being a Korean about 40 years old, wearing a jacket of hemp buttoned up in front.

Interviewed by a representative of the *Keijo Nippo* after the unpleasant incident, Baron Saito said that he heard after his carriage began to move a tremendous noise behind him and on arrival at his official residence found some small holes in his dress and belt, but no injury to his body. He had come to Chosen charged with an onerous duty, and from the time he received the appointment he was determined to sacrifice everything, his life even, in executing his duty. He was not afraid in the least though similar attempts on his life might be repeated any number of times. It was his desire to lead to the right way those erring men and make them good citizens. He was resolved never to waver in his determination to carry out a liberal administration.

tardly attempt made on his life, the Korean people in general would have suffered direly. All reform measures, which the new Governor-General intends to carry out in earnest and which are such liberal ones that all intelligent people will surely be satisfied, would have been put off. The militarist party would have regained their position and ruled this peninsula again with an iron hand more rigorously than ever. We are extremely glad that all this has been averted as the assassin's bomb missed its mark.

If Korean malcontents think that the assassination of a few heads of the Government-General of Chosen will cow Japan and make her relax her hold on Chosen, they are indeed mistaken. Japan is determined to hold the peninsula at all cost and will not let it go, no matter what things Korean agitators may do. Foolish men as they are, they surely know what happened to their country after the assassination of Prince Ito, one of the best friends Korea ever had, and should have intelligence enough to see the folly of resorting to violence in carrying on their mischievous work. By what was done on

Tuesday afternoon, they have been completely unmasked. They will now lose whatever sympathy they may have had among a section of the people and have sealed their doom. Viewed from this aspect the incident on Tuesday afternoon, regrettable as it was, is not without its bright side.

### The New Governor-General's Task.

(Tuesday, Sept. 9)

Voices are beginning to be raised in a certain section of the Japanese in Chosen that the Korean people should be ruled with an iron hand as hitherto. It is argued that the recent bomb outrage in Seoul proves beyond doubt that the Koreans are not disposed to reconciliation, and that the more good will they are shown the more audacious will they become. Therefore there is no other way to rule them with success, these shallow-minded critics opine, than that of reverting

to the former repressive measures.

We are not astonished at the presentation of such arguments. The recent Imperial Rescript granted concerning the administration of Chosen, the revision of the organization of the Government-General, and the statements made to the press by the new Governor-General before his arrival at his post should have convinced the Korean people, the agitators included, that the new Administration is ready to introduce some liberal reforms in its policy and to endeavour to remedy all the evils so bitterly objected to by them. To attempt to kill the man coming to usher in a new and happier day for their country was sheer madness, and it is quite natural that strong resentment should be felt by many Japanese at the act of the would-be assassin, causing some of them to put forth such opinions as above referred to. We must, however, decline to endorse these opinions. It goes without saying that we have no sympathy whatever with the would-be assassin and his associates. They are not only the enemies of those in power, but also of the Korean people in general. They are the enemies of

humanity and civilization. As such they should be hunted down even unto the very corners of the earth until they are captured and just punishment meted out to them. We shall not be surprised if the authorities take some strong measures in their efforts to bring them to justice. We shall, however, be greatly disappointed if the authorities look upon these dastardly rogues as representatives of the whole Korean people and take on an attitude of mistrust towards them all. The masses are entirely innocent. Intelligent Koreans all deplore the unpleasant incident as much as we do and are hopeful that the new Governor-General will carry out his promised reforms in spite of the enmity thus displayed by some of their countrymen.

There is little doubt that the would-be assassin and his associates secretly found their way to Seoul from abroad. They are agents of Korean malcontents in foreign countries, whom it is impossible for the Government to satisfy no matter what administrative reform it may undertake. The Government has to deal with these dangerous people abroad on

the one hand and the very ignorant masses at home on the other, who are easily deceived and as easily incited to opposition. It is evident that the task awaiting accomplishment by the new Governor-General and his lieutenants is extremely difficult, but we have full confidence in their ability and trust that in due time they will satisfactorily execute the onerous duties assigned them.

### No Change in Administrative Policy.

(Wednesday, Sept. 10)

With regard to our article published yesterday in these columns in which we expressed our disapproval of the opinion voiced by a section of the Japanese in Chosen that, in view of the recent bomb outrage, the Koreans should be ruled with a strong hand, we are highly gratified to be assured by a certain high official of the Government-General that there will be no change in the administrative policy, already announced, of the new Governor-General. The gentleman referred to, in an interview with a representative of ours yesterday, stated that the

Government regarded the deplorable incident at South Gate Station that occurred the day of the arrival of the Governor-General as an act of fanatics. Against such men, the authorities would of course pursue a relentless policy to suppress their nefarious activities, because they were enemies of peaceful and law-abiding people. But in the future administration of Chosen and in dealing with peaceful people the Government did not entertain the slightest idea of deviating from the policy outlined by the Governor-General. It was the hope and desire of the authorities, concluded the official we are quoting, to bring into this peninsula an atmosphere of complete freedom and security by introducing and steadily pursuing very liberal and sympathetic, and at the same time efficient administrative measures.

That the Governor-General himself has never wavered in his determination to carry out his promised reforms, we have already tried to make clear on more than one occasion. To confirm this, we may quote here a statement made by His Excellency to a newspaper correspondent. It is as follows :



"For my part, the policy mapped out by me for the administration of Korea will undergo no change on account of the affair committed at Nandaimon. That the outrage was committed by some of those who are agitating for the independence of Korea is more than certain, though such a method followed by them only deserves pity.

"The appearance of such political fanatics will not affect my Korean policy in any way. I am resolved, as I have declared, to bring the Korean people under a beneficent administration, though I do not know whether it will satisfy the Korean political malcontents. It is my resolve, however, to carry out such an administration in Korea, and on the result I am determined to ask for the judgment of the whole world."

Nothing can be more explicit. All well-wishers of the Korean people may rest assured that under the rule of the new Governor-General their country will soon see peace, contentment, and progress prevailing everywhere.

### The Governor-General's Proclamation.

(Wednesday Sept. 10).

In the *Official Gazette* of to-day there will be published a proclamation issued by Baron Saito, the Governor-General, to the people in Chosen. The following is our translation :—

On my assumption of duty as Governor-General, the organization of the Government-General of Chosen has been revised.

Accordingly I desire to address a few words to the people at large :—

That the administrative policy of Chosen should be based on the great principle of placing the Japanese and Korean peoples on an equal footing and should aim at promoting their interests and happiness, as well as at securing the permanent peace of the Far East, was determined upon at the very beginning. Those successively charged with the administration of this peninsula duly appreciated its meaning and strove to improve and develop its people and resources. The people too diligently engaged in their business. It is now recognised at home and abroad that the present development of Chosen was the result of their joint efforts. It goes without saying, however, that all administrative institutions must be planned and executed in conformity with the standard of popular living and the progress of the times, so that appropriate measures may be carried out and popular desires prevented from taking a wrong course. The times have progressed so much and civilization advanced that it is difficult to draw

a comparison between this and former days. Since the great European war was brought to an end, moreover, the condition of the world and human psychology have undergone a marked change. In deference to this hard fact, his Majesty's Government, through a revision in the Organic Regulations, enlarged the sphere of appointment for the Governor-General, reformed the police system, and made such provision for simplification and prompt transaction of state business and the diffusion of enlightened administration as will be found to be in perfect accord with the forward movement of this age. On assuming my present duty by Imperial order I made up my own mind to pursue faithfully the State policy and vindicate the spirit of annexation. I am determined to superintend in the future and encourage officials under my control to put forth greater efforts to act in a fairer and juster way, and promote the facilities of the people and the unhindered attainment of the people's desires by dispensing with all formality. Full consideration will be given to the appointment and treatment of

Koreans so as to secure the right men for the right places, and what is worthy in Korean institutions and old customs of adoption will be adopted as a means of government. I also hope to introduce reform in the different branches of administrative activity, enforce local self-government at the proper opportunity and thereby insure stability for the people and enhance their general well-being. It is most desirable that the government and the governed throw open their heart and minds to each other and combine their efforts to advance civilization in Chosen, solidify its foundation of enlightened government, and thus answer His Imperial Majesty's benevolent solicitude. If anybody is found guilty of unwarrantably refractory language or action, misguiding of popular minds, and impeding the maintenance of public peace, he will be met with relentless justice. May it be that the people at large will place reliance on all this.

September 10, 1919.

BARON MAKOTO SAITO,

Governor-General of Chosen.

## Editorial Comment on the Proclamation

(Thursday, Sept. 11)

All reasonable people will be gratified at the proclamation issued to the people at large by Baron Saito, the Governor-General, yesterday. It is a document of the utmost importance, promising liberal reforms in the future administration of Chosen. Being the medium for the portrayal of the outlines of his policy, it does not give details of the many measures which he is prepared to adopt to carry out the promised reforms. We are not at present at liberty to tell what these are, but we may say that, besides the reforms already announced, steps will be gradually taken to abolish all such regulations and practices as have constituted popular grievances. We are told that many

Koreans still labour under the delusion that the recent instruction\* issued by the Governor-General to high officials concerning administrative reforms is nothing but deception intended to placate Korean feeling. At a time when things are still in an unsettled condition as at present, it is not astonishing that there is such a delusion among the Korean people. But none of those knowing anything of Baron Saito's high character and ability can doubt that he is earnest in his desire to improve things in this peninsula and is equal to the difficult task confronting him. Before many days elapse, those doubting Koreans will, we trust, begin to see that their suspicion is ill-founded and that they have as their ruler a statesman who is really solicitous of their welfare and is able enough to promote it.

\* The instruction referred to was issued by the Governor-General on Sept. 3, the day following his arrival at his post. It reads:—

“The main policy of the administration of Chosen is clearly embodied in the Imperial rescript issued on the occasion of the annexation of Chosen in 1910. The progress made by Chosen since she was brought under Japanese rule, in education, industry, communication, sanitation and in other directions, has been remarkable, thanks to the efforts of those who have been responsible for the administration of the country. It cannot be denied, however, that during the ten years that have elapsed

since the annexation of Chosen the general affairs in the peninsula have undergone such a change, that the Government thought it advisable to frame and promulgate a new organization of the Government-General of Chosen.

“The purport of the revised official organization is to enlarge the application of the principle of universal brotherhood which is the keynote of the Imperial rescript recently issued. The official organization has been altered in such a way, so that either a civil or military man may be appointed at the head of the administration in Chosen. The gendarmerie system has been abolished and replaced by the ordinary police system. Further, an im-

provement has been introduced in the matter of the eligibility for appointment of Koreans as officials. The whole aim and object of the revised organization is, in short, to give more happiness and satisfaction than is the case at present by bringing their treatment socially and politically on the same footing as the Japanese.

"I am not well conversant with all the phases of affairs in Chosen and will have to depend on your guidance and suggestions in carrying out the object of the Imperial rescript. At the same time, I would like to call your attention to the following points in regard to the administration of Chosen.

"All officials of the Government-General should do their best to discharge their duties in a conscientious and impartial manner, so that the public may be induced to rely on them. All official routine should be simplified and made easier, avoiding red-tape as far as possible. The rights of the people should be respected and the freedom of press and speech should not be interfered with unless it is distinctly calculated to be inimical to the preservation of peace. Special attention should be paid to the improvement in education, industry, communication, police, sanitation and social works, as well as in general administrative and judicial matters, so that the welfare of the Koreans may be advanced with the ultimate object of the establishment of local autonomous government.

"What is required of the officials who are charged with the administration of Chosen is that they should acquaint themselves with the general trend of ideas among the Koreans and adopt a method of administration which will be in keeping with the requirements of the times. In other words, efforts should be made so that the political foundations may be placed on a firm, secure basis. The Koreans and Japanese must be treated alike as members of the same family. If the officials in Chosen try to live up to the ideals set forth in the Imperial rescript, there is no doubt that the Koreans will be induced to recognize the benefit of Japanese rule."

## Government by Co-operation.

(Saturday, Sept. 13.)

In an address delivered by Baron Saito, the Governor-General, on the occasion of a reception given by him at his official residence on Thursday afternoon to about two hundred representative citizens, Japanese, Korean, and foreign, His Excellency asked for their support and co-operation in his administration of Chosen. The distinguished host stated that he had already announced the outlines of his administrative policy through his instruction to high officials and his proclamation to the people at large. It was his earnest intention and desire to discharge his duty in conformity with the spirit embodied in the recent Imperial Rescript granted concerning the administration of Chosen. He and his subordinates were ready to put forth their best efforts, but it was impossible that single-handed they could successfully reap any good fruits of their labour. Therefore the Governor-General asked his audience to show towards them the spirit of support and co-operation.

As might be expected this speech

evoked the hearty approval of all the gentlemen present on the occasion, their sentiment having been well voiced by Mr. Minobe, the Governor of the Bank of Chosen, who replied to the Governor-General on their behalf. Mr. Minobe expressed his high appreciation of the spirit of self-sacrifice with which Baron Saito assumed the onerous duty of Governor-General of Chosen. He did not doubt that, in view of his great ability and ripe experience, he would succeed in his work. As for his request that support and co-operation be extended to him by those on whose behalf he was speaking, he could say that all were sincerely willing to assist him as best as they could.

All will agree with us in hoping that the speeches we have just quoted will not stop at being so many words uttered only for the sake of courtesy. Fine speeches are nothing if the good sentiments and ideas expressed in them are not put into practice. We have reason to believe that in the present instance both speakers said what they really felt and were determined to do. In conversation with the writer, both the Governor-General and the Adminis-

trative Superintendent repeatedly expressed themselves as being more than willing to seek the support and co-operation of unofficial leaders of the people. They are fully aware that no government can succeed unless it is backed by the people, and that government officials are nothing but their servants, whose duty it is to carry out what they desire. It is with such spirit that they are here. There is little doubt that the new government under them will be quite a different one from its predecessor. One fundamental mistake of the old government was that it believed too much in its ability and strength, stood aloof from the people, and tried to govern independently of them without taking them into its confidence. Hence its issuance of so many troublesome and complicated regulations and laws, inappropriate to the conditions of the people, difficult to be enforced, and very obstructive to their free activities and development. We trust that the new government will not repeat this serious blunder, to which its predecessor chiefly owed its failure

## First Step in Administrative Reform.

(Wednesday, Sept. 17)

That the new Government-General of Chosen under Baron Saito and Dr. Midzuno is eager to carry out the promised administrative reforms has just been shown. In saying this, we refer to the presentation to the Central Council (Korean) of a draft of revised regulations concerning cemeteries and the unanimous approval of it by that advisory body as elsewhere reported to-day.

The regulations concerning cemeteries, which were put in force several years ago while Count Terauchi was at the head of the Government-General, were probably the most unpopular administrative measure ever taken in this part of the Japanese Empire. In justice to those responsible for its enactment, it must be admitted that it was adopted with the best of intentions, the idea and object of the authorities in enforcing the law being to adjust private burial grounds and prevent certain evils resulting from the burial of the dead in whatever place their relatives might choose. As travellers from foreign countries cannot fail

to notice, with anything but pleasant feeling, one of the first things which strikes their eyes is the many mounds, beneath which the Korean dead lie, standing on hill-sides in promiscuous confusion and disfiguring the whole landscape. To remove these eyesores, as well as to promote sanitation and prevent disputes very frequently occurring concerning rights over burial grounds, the authorities decided to provide public cemeteries at fixed places for the interment of the dead, hoping ultimately to abolish all private cemeteries. No reasonable people can say that the authorities in enforcing the law had a bad motive, especially in view of the danger of epidemics spreading when people are allowed to bury in places other than public cemeteries the bodies of those falling victims to them. We hope that the time will come when the Korean people will see the wisdom of burying their dead in places specially chosen and provided for that purpose. But, in enforcing the law, the authorities committed the mistake of entirely ignoring the Korean idea and usage concerning the dead. They should

have waited until the advancement and spread of education among the Korean people induced them to discard their superstitious ideas and change their old usage. Instead of doing so, in their zeal and haste to improve things in this peninsula, the authorities sought to reform them all at once, and enforced the law in question with too much strictness. The result was that the Government measure became very unpopular among the Korean people at large, inducing them to entertain a feeling of bitter resentment against the authorities.

It is this unpopular law that the Government-General has revised. We are as yet in the dark as to particulars of the amendment effected, but we trust that it is such as will satisfy the Korean people. This we infer from the fact that Dr. Midzuno, the Administrative Superintendent, introduced the revised regulations to the Central Council with the remark: "The Government has revised the regulations out of respect for Korean usage and so as to suit the popular feeling," as well as from the fact that the revision was unanimously approved by the Council.

It is also a matter worthy of special notice that the Central Council was consulted by the Government in regard to the taking of this important step. This advisory body hitherto existed practically in name only, its opinion having rarely been sought. Now it has been taken into confidence by the Government. This fact shows that the new Government is determined to hear Korean opinion in governing this peninsula. As nobody knows things Korean better than Korean leaders, it is both wise and necessary for the authorities to consult them in their dealing with all important matters bearing on the interest of the Korean people. A good precedent has thus been created, which should not be ignored on similar future occasions.

As we have seen, the first step in administrative reform is on the eve of being taken, and the dawn of a new and happier day is appearing for Chosen. Let us hope that the reform measure we have been discussing will rapidly be followed by others no less important and imperative.

## A New Feature of the New Régime.

(Wednesday, Sept. 24)

As reported in our yesterday's issue, seven secretaries of the Government-General have been ordered to the provinces to investigate and report on the conditions and feelings of the people, and also to see how the recent proclamation of the Governor-General concerning his administrative policy is understood by them. This we take as the precursor of the creation of a new office, the principal duty of which will be to interpret to the people at large Government measures taken on their behalf, and also to hear popular opinion concerning them, as well as popular grievances. Such an office is in existence in Japan and it seems that the Government-General intends to establish one in Chosen too. In an interview with a representative of ours, Dr. R. Midzuno, the Administrative Superintendent, said that, as in Japan, the authorities in Chosen found it wise to create an organ by which the Government policies could be thoroughly explained to the people, while the people could freely speak their minds to

the Government. In Japan, continued Dr. Midzuno, there were Inspectors attached to the Home Office, whose duty it was to do this work, and it was his intention to appoint similar officials to undertake the same work in Chosen.

We heartily welcome this new feature of the new régime. As a matter of fact in former days Korea had such an office, there having been officials specially charged with the duty of inspecting and reporting on popular conditions. They frequently travelled in the provinces, often *incognito*, to investigate how the masses were being governed, and when they discovered irregularities in administration they reported them to the central authorities for their correction and the dismissal of the guilty officials. It can not be said that this system worked up to the ideal on which it was formed, for not infrequently the inspectors themselves were corrupt and failed to discharge their duty in a proper way. Nevertheless this office was a powerful preventive of maladministration in the provinces, and was the only medium through which the people could make their voices heard by the Government.



Thus the new office the Government-General proposes to inaugurate will be in consonance with the old Korean precedent and so will doubtless be welcomed by the Korean people. It need scarcely be said, however, that whether the new office will prove a useful organ or not depends entirely on the choice of the men appointed to it. Only competent men of high character, thoroughly conversant with the Korean psychology and Korean manners and customs, as well as with the Korean language, should be chosen for the office. They should also be men of keen insight and very sympathetically disposed towards the Korean people.

### Reform of the Police System.

(Friday, Oct. 10)

It is astonishing that a great many Koreans and a section of foreigners resident in this country seem to entertain doubts about the sincerity of the new Government-General as to carrying out reforms in its administrative policy. These people say that the

promise of reforms made by the Government is a mere bluff intended to quiet down the situation, and whatever reforms it intends to introduce will only be such trivial ones as are not likely to ameliorate to any marked degree the condition of the Korean people. The reform of the police system already carried out is pointed out by these sceptics as an instance. It is true, they say, that the policing by gendarmes is done away with, but the police force has been increased and among the policemen newly recruited there are found many Japanese and Koreans who were formerly gendarmes. So the reform referred to, according to their opinion, amounts at best to the mere change of clothes.

We are not astonished to hear such opinions from Koreans, who are mostly ignorant and prejudiced. It is hopeless to enlighten them all at once. Time alone will show that the reform of the police system is real. It is, however, remarkable that among intelligent foreigners there are not a few who do not clearly understand the reform introduced. For the benefit of these people, we may explain that the reform intro-

duced has been made both in method and spirit. Formerly the administration of police affairs was virtually in the hands of military officers, the Director being a Lieutenant-General and his chief assistant a Colonel. The provincial Police Chiefs were also all military officers. Accordingly the Director of Internal Affairs in the Government-General and the Provincial Governors had practically nothing to do with the policing of the country. In consequence, although the Governor-General controlled both departments of administration, there existed in reality two independent organs of government, each pursuing its own policy. This was in itself an anomaly, undoubtedly necessitated for some time by the state of things existing in this country after annexation. To make the matter worse, the Police Department often seemed to wield greater power than the civil, and many times interfered with or overruled the policy pursued by the latter. This accounts, by the way, for those extremely irritating experiences passed thorough by some missionaries and Christian institutions during the disturbances in spring last. It

will be remembered that both Mr. Usami, Director of Internal Affairs, and Mr. Kokubu, Director of Judicial Affairs, openly declared that no missionaries were implicated in the disturbances. In spite of this the police persisted in regarding the missionaries with suspicion, and carried out domiciliary searches in some of their private residences, churches, and schools, utterly belieing the declaration made by the two officials and placing them in a very awkward position towards the missionaries.

The reform recently introduced in the police system is expected to do away once for all with all such anomalies. The Police Headquarters, standing independently of the Government-General, has been abolished, and a Police Affairs Bureau has been created in the Government-General itself. All the military officers hitherto in charge of police-affairs have been relieved of their duty and replaced by civil officials, the administration of the affairs in the Central Government being now in the hands of the Director of the Police Affairs Bureau, under the Governor-General, and that of those in the provinces in those of the Chiefs of Third Departments.

in the Provincial Governments, under Provincial Governors. It must be said here in parenthesis that the system of policing by gendarmes is still continued along the Manchurian frontier, but simply because of the insecure state of things existing there. There is also a number of gendarmes on duty in places where garrison troops are stationed, but they are there to do policing work among the soldiers only. In regard to the fact that many Japanese and Koreans, who were formerly gendarmes, have been recruited as policemen, we are unable to see the reasonableness of the objection raised by some people against it. There is no reason why ex-soldiers should not be made policemen. What is important is that the policing of this country is not done, as formerly, by military men in a spirit of militarism and with the idea of keeping the people in submission by harsh measures and the display of brute force. By the reform introduced in its police system, the Government expects and hopes that whatever evils that formerly appeared and existed will be gradually eradicated, and that the time will come when the peo-

ple will look upon the guardians of peace and order as their protectors instead of regarding them as their oppressors.

### Three More Reforms.

(Saturday, Oct. 11)

Impatience is observable among certain people at what they consider to be tardiness on the part of the Government-General of Chosen in carrying out its promised reforms. Those, however, well acquainted with the magnitude and complexity of the various government organs will not be so unreasonable as to expect the Government to re-organize itself at short notice. When it is considered that it requires some time and trouble even to remodel the household of a private individual, none will think it strange that a great public body like the Government-General of Chosen cannot abolish old measures and introduce new ones without first deliberating in a thorough manner the advisability or no of doing so. Above all, in adopting new measures, necessary funds must be provided. As the Governor-General has no Aladdin's lamp to rely

upon, he must devise ways and means to obtain the sinews of administration. That this, in itself, is a heavy task, one can well imagine. Those who complain that the Government is slow, therefore, must be said to show anything but reason and intelligence.

It is only one month or so since the new Governor-General arrived at his post. It is really to his credit that, even within so short a time, he has carried out some notable reforms, such as the abolition of policing by gendarmes, that of uniforms and swords hitherto worn by all Government officials and school teachers, and the revision of the regulations concerning cemeteries. Above all, the first mentioned reform is a momentous one, having great bearing on the welfare of the people at large. To carry it out without a hitch, as he did, required no uncommon degree of tactful and circumspect handling. It is no exaggeration to say that none but a man of Baron Saito's calibre would have been able to effect the reform so successfully within so short a time.

And now the Governor-General

has made three new notable announcements. These are: (I) that a hundred new schools shall be annually established during the next four years for Korean children, (II) that arrangements have been completed for doing away with red-tapeism and for simplifying the transaction of official business, and (III) a plan has been drafted for eliminating any discrimination between Japanese and Koreans in the Government service as regards their salaries. All these, we need scarcely say, are reforms of great importance calculated to give great satisfaction to the Korean people. We have no space to-day to discuss them at length and so confine ourselves to merely referring to them just to show that people doubting the sincerity of the Governor-General or complaining of tardiness in carrying out his promised reforms are altogether unreasonable.

### Salaries of Korean Officials.

(Wednesday, Oct. 15)

As fully reported in our yesterday's issue, the Government-General has completed arrangements

to remove all discrimination hitherto existing between Japanese and Koreans in government service in regard to their salaries. This we take to be one of the practical steps made toward carrying into effect the declared promise that Japanese and Koreans shall hereafter be accorded equal treatment. We heartily welcome the reform in question, and by reason of it are stronger in our faith that the new Government-General will put in practice all the promised reforms.

The distinction hitherto existing between Japanese and Korean officials in regard to their salaries was not without reason. Ten years ago, Chosen was not a very good place to live in for Japanese and foreigners. There was little comfort in life; on the contrary, there was much that made life in this country anything but enviable. In the circumstances, the Government had no choice but to offer comparatively high salaries to Japanese of talent and ability in order to induce such men to serve as officials. In the case of Korean officials, however, there was little need of doing so, because they were accustomed to their own mode of living in this coun-

try, and they could live in comfort at less expense than Japanese. It was for these reasons that higher salaries were given to Japanese officials. In the course of the ten years that have elapsed since annexation, however, the condition of things in this country has greatly changed. While living has become comfortable, commodities of daily necessity have remarkably risen in price, making the living of Korean officials harder and harder. So it was but reasonable that they desired their salaries raised to the equal of those received by their Japanese colleagues. We are glad that the Government has now seen the reasonableness of this desire of theirs and is prepared to concede it.

Korean officials, however, should not forget that the amount of salary paid differs according to the degree of indispensability and usefulness of the service rendered, men doing better and more necessary work and showing better results being naturally given higher pay than those doing easier work and showing less good results. They should not grumble if some of their Japanese colleagues receive higher salaries than they do, for, as a rule, they are more competent officials. Particularly is it perfectly right that

those Japanese officials having technical knowledge and skill should be given specially good treatment. We do not think that among the Korean officials there will be any unreasonable enough to claim for themselves treatment such as they do not deserve. We only hope that they will strive to increase their knowledge and experience and prove themselves the equals, even superiors, of the Japanese officials in every respect. High positions will then be given them without the asking.

### Governor-General's Address to Provincial Governors.

(Tuesday, Oct. 14).

A conference of the Provincial Governors throughout Chosen, the first convened since the new Governor-General assumed his duty, sat yesterday morning in the Government-General council room. Besides the officials from the provinces, the Governor-General, the Administrative Superintendent, the Bureau and Departmental Directors were present. The meeting was opened with an address by Baron Saito, Dr.

Midzuno subsequently giving detailed instructions concerning the administrative policy of the new Government-General. In the afternoon, reports were submitted by the Provincial Governors concerning the conditions in their several provinces. The conference will sit for three days, ending on October 15.

In his address to the assembly the Governor-General said:

"Gentlemen:—I am very glad to have opportunity at this meeting of Provincial Governors to speak to you of my policy and to listen to your opinions concerning the administration of Chosen.

### CIVILIZED ADMINISTRATION AIMED AT.

"When I assumed my duty last month, I made up my mind to establish in this country a civilized administration by conforming my policy to the idea of His Majesty that both Koreans and Japanese should be treated as equals. As you are already well aware, I issued some time ago an instruction to all the officials serving in the Government-General and its affiliated offices. Since that time the Government-General itself has

been and is endeavouring to carry out various important measures. Gentlemen, I do not doubt that you also have carried out or are intending to carry out these reforms, and are leading your subordinates in the same spirit as myself. I earnestly desire you to realize the administrative reforms by entering into the spirit of my instruction more thoroughly than ever. As to concrete plans and measures to be followed for effecting the reforms, the Administrative Superintendent will separately give you instructions. By observing these instructions, you are expected to introduce a new spirit and new life into the government of this country and attain good results.

#### MAINTENANCE OF PEACE, THE MOST IMPORTANT TASK.

"The most important task to be accomplished to-day is the adjustment and completion of the police organs and the maintenance of public peace and order. However, at this transition time, when the replacement of gendarmes with ordinary police is being effected, it is very difficult to expand the

police force. Besides, arrangements for various police organs have not as yet been completed. I can well sympathise with you in your anxiety and trouble, standing, as you do, in this difficult situation, but I ask you to ensure the peace of the localities under your jurisdiction and make the people under your administration repose full confidence in the authorities, by maintaining satisfactory and smooth relations with all the public offices interested in this task, and by checkmating the activities of agitators through taking the best possible measures.

#### RELIEF OF SUFFERERS FROM DROUGHT.

"This year's drought in places north of the central part of this peninsula was so severe as to be unprecedented in recent years. In consequence, in these places only very poor crops have been obtained and many people are suffering from scarcity of food. To study measures for relieving them, a committee has been specially organised and general plans for doing so have been decided on.

Gentlemen, you are asked to follow these plans in the main and leave no room for criticism in assuring the sufferers in affected localities of safe living by taking such measures as are appropriate to local conditions.

"The world's thoughts and ideas are in an unsettled state due to the great European War. In these days it is of the utmost importance to restrain our people from resorting to thoughtless and harmful acts, to induce them calmly to pursue their respective occupations, and to allow them freedom to make orderly progress, for all this is the way by which the State can attain a healthy development. Especially is it important in Chosen, where disturbances have broken out one after another since March last, where wild rumours still continue to be in the air, and where the popular mind is still disturbed, to free the people from anxiety and lead them in a right direction.

"I hope and desire that, together with your subordinates, you will put forth greater efforts than hitherto to open up a new and happy era in the administration of this peninsula by adopting your course to the progress of the times."

## Administrative Superintendent's Instructions to Provincial Governors.

(Friday, Oct. 16)

At the session on Monday morning of the conference of Provincial Governors, Dr. Midzuno, Administrative Superintendent, following the Governor-General, made a speech giving detailed instructions to his hearers concerning the administration of this country. This speech of the chief administrator of Chosen was a highly notable one, being virtually the index of the policies of the new Government-General. For this reason, we publish to-day a full translation of it:—

Gentlemen:—With regard to the reform of the administration of Chosen, the Governor-General, on the assumption of his duty, showed in his instruction to the officials of the Government-General and its affiliated offices the fundamental points in his policy. So I trust that you are already endeavouring steadily to put them into practice. I now desire to call your attention to the essential measures, which the Government-General has already carried out since its re-organization or is about to carry out.



## ABOLITION OF DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN JAPANESE AND KOREAN OFFICIALS.

In order to realize the Imperial idea of placing Japanese and Koreans on the footing of equality and reap the fruit of fair and enlightened administration by the co-operation of the Government and people, the Government-General has considered it urgently necessary to abolish the discrimination hitherto existing between Japanese and Korean officials in their treatment, and to open the way for the appointment to official posts of men of talent and ability by giving them very good treatment. The Government-General has accordingly decided to make the salaries of Korean officials equal to those of Japanese officials. Regulations concerning this measure will shortly be published. Also the power of Korean judges and public procurators has been extended to the same degree as that of their Japanese colleagues, while the posts of principals of common schools hitherto exclusively given to Japanese will hereafter be given to Koreans too. For officials in general, in view of the present

state of society, the Government is prepared to give them better treatment as far as its finances will allow. The Government is also prepared to abolish complicated restrictions concerning appointments, and regulations concerning promotions, so that the right men may be found in the right posts and all officials may serve the State with increased efficiency and in a spirit of fresh vigour.

## RED-TAPEISM TO BE DONE AWAY WITH

One way of promoting the welfare of the governed is to eradicate the evil of formality and simplify the transaction of official business. In this respect it is regrettable that there was something needing improvement in the administration of Chosen. In addition, due to the progress of the times and the economic development of the peninsula, the business of government offices has been rapidly augmenting, strengthening the desire for its prompt handling and settlement. In view of this, the Government has recognized the necessity of speedily introducing im-

provement in the transaction of official business. To do so, the Government has set aside the principle hitherto pursued of centralizing power in the Government-General in favour of that of distributing it among local offices. In conformity with this idea the Government-General will shortly adjust itself and extend as far as possible the power entrusted to local officials. For instance, the transaction of affairs relating to the appointment or retirement of lower class officials in local offices and the distribution of bonuses among them, as well as of affairs relating to travelling by subordinates on official business; has already been entrusted to Provincial Governors. Rules relating to the enforcement of the Myon (village) system have been revised and nearly all business concerning it has also been transferred to their hands. Further, Provincial Governors have been given the power of appointing Councillors. Besides, it is the intention of the Government-General to empower Prefects and District Magistrates to deal with matters relating to the exemption or reduction of ground-rent for State lands after they have obtained the approval

of the Provincial Governor of their localities. The authorities also intend to give District Magistrates certain power to deal with offence relating to the payment of indirect taxes without taking the trouble of obtaining the approval of their superiors to do so. All these measures already taken or about to be taken are aimed at the elimination of red-tapeism, the adjustment of complicated laws and regulations, and the simplification of business transaction, so as to lessen as far as possible the inconvenience felt by the people at large. You are asked, therefore, gentlemen, to appreciate this idea, and, in dealing with affairs coming under your domain, give to them due deliberation and transact them in a spirit of responsibility.

#### THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE DESIRED

It is essential for a government to establish a thorough understanding between the government and the people governed, and to carry out such administration as

is suitable to local conditions. Gentlemen, you should endeavour, by directing your subordinates in a proper way, make the people under you thoroughly understand the ideas of the Government and appreciate the motives of the laws and administrative measures adopted. At the same time you should not neglect to know what the people desire or complain of and inform the Government of what they think. This is a matter, the importance of which is self-evident. Nevertheless it is an evil common to all ages that this is not well done in practice. Now let us consider how it was in Chosen. As a matter of fact, there was something lacking in this respect. People did not fully understand and appreciate the aims and motives of the laws and regulations enacted, or the spirit of the proclamations and instructions issued. For this reason, in not a few instances the enforcement of administrative measures was much hampered and excited the ill feeling of the people in general. Gentlemen, it was in order to avoid the repetition of such blunders that the Governor-General convened to a meeting here some days ago leading Koreans in the

provinces recommended by yourselves, and explained to them the motives and aims of the administrative reforms undertaken. The distribution throughout the country of the Governor-General's proclamation and instruction, the despatch of a number of high officials to the provinces on a mission of inspection of popular conditions, and the invitation of opinion by the Government from the Central Council, which hitherto existed as a nominal advisory body only—all these were done by the Government with the purpose of realizing the idea mentioned. Gentlemen, I ask you to convey this idea to your subordinates, guide and help the people under your administration and make them thoroughly understand the policy of the Government. I also ask you to learn clearly and fully their mental condition and endeavour to take fitting measures to give them satisfaction.

#### PROMISE OF LOCAL SELF- GOVERNMENT

In order to advance the capabilities of the people in the provinces,

improve their habits, and enable them to take part in the Government, the Government recognizes the necessity of carrying out a system of local self-government. The Director of the Internal Affairs Bureau is investigating and studying the subject, so that some time in the future the Government will announce a concrete plan thereanent. You are requested to submit to me your views, if you have any, without the least reservation.

#### REFORM OF THE POLICE SYSTEM.

The police system has been reformed with the reorganization of the Government-General, the police and gendarmes being now separated, each having its own proper duties. The police power is now in your hands. Accordingly you must remember that you have now greater responsibility than hitherto in maintaining peace and order in the localities under your jurisdiction. I desire that, by encouraging your subordinates, you will achieve great improvement in the administration of police affairs. The

police being in direct contact with the people, and having as their duty their protection and control, their acts and behaviour not only concern the interests of the people to a large extent, but often become the cause of criticism against the Government-General régime. I desire you, gentlemen, to be careful in the direction of the police officers under you, so that they may commit no blunders and uphold their prestige.

#### MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND ORDER.

The popular mind is still disturbed in Chosen and it is not impossible that the situation may take on a serious aspect. Taking advantage of this state of things, wicked men are secretly at work endeavouring to incite the masses and disturb the order of society by spreading wild and seditious rumours. In consequence, law-abiding people are menaced in regard to life and property, suffering therefrom much loss. Gentlemen, you should exercise strict control over those wicked men, and endeavour to free peaceful people from the fear of groundless

rumours, give them assurance of the security of life and property, and set the popular mind at ease.

With regard to the control of disturbances and similar occurrences, you should try to use the police organs to the best advantage, and, by paying the most circumspect attention, should try to prevent such from taking place. You should, however, be fully prepared promptly to suppress any untoward occurrence that may take place.

#### EXTENSION OF MEDICAL AND SANITARY ORGANS.

It is necessary to extend medical and sanitary organs and to complete their equipments in order to prevent the outbreak of epidemics and to give people suffering from diseases prompt and efficient medical attention. It is a measure calculated to give assurance to the popular mind. In this branch of the Government work, thanks to the splendid efforts put forth by our predecessors, some excellent arrangements have already been made in this country, there being in existence nineteen charity hospitals and more than

one-hundred public doctors. Nevertheless, in consideration of the progress of the times, the Government has recognized the necessity of introducing improvement in the work as far as its finances allow. The authorities are now deliberating plans to establish more charity hospitals, appoint more public doctors, and increase the force of sanitary experts attached to Provincial governments. You are asked to enter into this idea of the Government and leave no room for criticism in promoting the hygienic welfare of the general public and spreading the benefit of medical relief.

#### ABOLITION OF FLOGGING.

The method of punishment by flogging has long been practised in Chosen and was considered a measure suitable to the standard of the people as a preventive of minor offences. So the Government has continued it against Koreans only. It is, however, a method of punishment at variance with the modern idea aiming at the reformation of erring people. For this reason, the Government will shortly abolish it, substituting

ting for it imprisonment with labour or fines, so as to conform to the progress of the times.

#### INDUSTRIAL POLICY.

The Government-General since its establishment has earnestly encouraged industry in this country with the result that a fine development has been attained. The development of industry is to be achieved on the basis of experience as well as of manners and customs. Its pace should not be forcibly accelerated by the launching of novel ventures or by the introduction of sudden changes. So in improving industrial undertakings and institutions already under way, you should be very careful in selecting what is good and rejecting what is bad, so as to assure their healthy progress.

#### EXPANSION OF EDUCATIONAL ORGANS.

Education is the means by which the human intellect is developed and a virtuous character

built up. In view of the present condition of this country, the Government recognizes the urgent necessity of spreading education among the people by advancing standard of educational organs and enriching their equipment. Accordingly the Government is now deliberating plans for the extension of the school course for Korean children, improvement of school curriculums, increase in schools, and the establishment of new organs for higher education, as well as the improvement of those already existing. But no good result of education can be achieved through the completion of its system and arrangement, unless it is reformed and improved in spirit and conduct. I desire you, gentlemen, to be very careful in the selection and superintendence of teachers and to endeavour to improve the method of teaching.

#### ENCOURAGEMENT OF STUDY OF KOREAN.

It is scarcely necessary to say that the knowledge of the Korean language is very important to officials in discharging their duties.

Accordingly, in order to encourage the study of the language by them, the Government-General intends to find a way for granting special liberal allowances to those mastering it. Especially great is the importance of the mastery of the language by police officers and officials serving in provincial governments, as they daily come in contact with the Korean people. I ask you to communicate this idea of the Government to your subordinates and induce them to take up the study of Korean in earnest.

#### MAINTENANCE OF OFFICIAL DISCIPLINE.

With regard to the maintenance of official discipline, the preceding heads of the Government-General frequently issued instructions, so that I do not doubt that you are always paying due attention to the subject. I see, however, that the morality of society is very loose of late, and there is a tendency for its bad effects to appear among Government officials in general. I regret that I frequently hear of various unpleasant affairs taking place among them. I ask

you to drive home in the minds of officials under you that they are expected to be examples for the people at large and to maintain the dignity and prestige due to their positions.

#### NO HURRY IN ACHIEVING RESULTS.

Since my arrival here, I have been working hard together with gentlemen under me with a view to obtaining same good results of the new régime. It is, however, less than two months since it was inaugurated. The new policy of the Governor-General is not as yet thoroughly realized, and those measures already taken for its realization have not as yet borne fruit. All this I regret very much, but I shall continue to put forth my best efforts in the discharge of my duty with the purpose of bringing into the administration of this country a new and happy feature. Gentlemen, I beseech you to remember the great responsibility reposed in you, to appreciate the motives and ideas of the new régime, and to discharge your duty with courage and without flinching. The admini-

strative reform we have taken up, however, must be preceded by circumspect deliberation and study, as well as by the amendment of existing institutions. In addition, funds must be provided for. Unless we are given time, it is impossible for us to achieve our desired end. Together with you I wish to go on our work slowly but steadily, thinking deeply of the present and the future. Above all, I am determined not to be swayed by the superficial criticism of the public and not to be too hasty in endeavouring to reap the fruit of our labour, so that we may not commit blunders by acting thoughtlessly. Gentlemen, many of you have lived long in Chosen and are well versed in affairs and in the conditions in your localities. I desire you to take the present opportunity to submit to me your views without the least reservation and thereby contribute to the reform of the administration of this country.

### Abolition of Flogging.

(Sunday, Oct. 19.)

All lovers of humanity and all

friends of Japan will be sincerely glad at the declaration made by Dr. Midzuno, Administrative Superintendent, at the recent conference of Provincial Governors that the Government has decided to abolish flogging in Chosen. This method of punishment has long been practised in this peninsula and is used against minor offenders. There can be little doubt that it was a simple and effective method of punishment in by-gone days, when people were in no advanced stage of civilization and regarded their government with fear, as if it was a body endowed with some special divine right. And, as a matter of fact, in not a few cases prisoners preferred it to fines or imprisonment, for the reason that they were poor and could not afford to pay the fines or spend some time in prison leaving their families helpless to live on during their absence. It was for these reasons that the Government-General thought it expedient to retain it for some time. Nevertheless, there can be no disputing that it is a barbarous method of punishment, extremely repugnant to the sense of humanity, which



no civilized government would like to adopt, however effective it might be in attaining the end it has in view. Japan undertook the administration of this peninsula with the avowed object of civilizing and uplifting its decadent people, and has succeeded more or less in doing away with some of their bad usages and ideas. It was, therefore, entirely contrary to the spirit in which Japan took up the task that, in respect to this particular relic of past ages, the Japanese authorities in Chosen considered it advisable not to abolish it, well knowing that it was antiquated and deserved to be made a thing of the past. Besides, in retaining it, they failed to see that, though Koreans punished in this way by their fellow-countrymen might not feel particularly humiliated, they would unduly resent it if so dealt with by Japanese, whom they regarded as foreigners. So, we are afraid that the continuation of this method of punishment by the Japanese authorities was a great factor in making many of the Korean people bitterly antagonistic to them.

We are sincerely glad that the new Government-General has now

recognized the mistake of its predecessors in regard to this point, and that it is determined to correct it. In this connection, however, we must remind those good friends of Japan, who, sharing our views, have repeatedly expressed their desire quickly to see the obnoxious method of punishment abolished, and seem to be impatient at the apparent tardiness of the authorities in doing it, that, before forsaking it, the Government must provide and complete arrangements for the punishment of those minor offences, which hitherto came under that form of punishment. As many of those people cannot be expected to have enough money to pay fines, prison cells must be erected to take them in. In doing so, funds must first be obtained and this cannot be done unless the estimates required are approved by the Imperial Diet in Tokyo. It will be seen that the apparent delay of the authorities in carrying out the reform we are discussing is unavoidable. Frankly speaking, we wish that the authorities would pardon, or postpone the execution of sentence on all "independence" demonstrators, except their ringleaders, and thus make

room in the prisons for those offenders, so that the abolition of flogging might immediately be carried out.

## Cholera and Drought.

(Friday, Sept. 12)

This has been an eventful year for Chosen. Not to mention the "independence" agitation, which has caused unrest throughout the peninsula, two occurrences that have taken place, as serious in nature as the movement just referred to, are enough to make the present year a black one for this part of the Japanese Empire. These are the threatened spread of cholera and the visitation of drought in North-western Chosen.

As for the former, in spite of all preventive measures taken along the Manchurian frontier, the dread epidemic has already invaded the north-western provinces and so far 700 cases have been reported. Seoul is so far safe, but the epidemic has already broken out at Songdo and is, figuratively speaking, knocking at our very doors. At this critical time, it is reassuring that the authorities, in the midst of many urgent

matters claiming their attention, are taking steps in dead earnest to nip the threatened danger in the bud. To combat the epidemic a committee has been organized with Dr. Midzuno, the Administrative Superintendent, as chairman, and a number of doctors and nurses are coming from Japan to assist those here in conquering the scourge, 360,000 *yen* having been appropriated for meeting the expenses required. Elsewhere we reproduce to-day an interesting article \* by Dr. J. S. Gale, describing how the Japanese authorities successfully suppressed the epidemic several years ago when, as now, it threatened to work havoc in the city. We hope and are confident that this year again the authorities will deal with the situation with similar success.

Even more serious than the problem of cholera is that of the long and severe drought that prevailed in North-western Chosen during the summer and ruined practically all agricultural crops in that part of the peninsula. On this account tens of thousands of poor peasants are face to face with the terrible prospect of hunger and cold during the coming cold sea-

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\* See Appendix B.

son. The Korean agricultural populace is notoriously poor. During the warmer seasons those who have failed to harvest the fruits of their labour in the field on account of the drought, are able to live from hand to mouth by being employed as labourers, but when the freezing season sets in and all out-door work is suspended, they will have no means of obtaining their daily food. Unless they are relieved then, thousands of them will die from hunger and cold, and it is not impossible that hunger riots will break out. The relief of these people is one of the weighty tasks that must be undertaken and accomplished by the new governors of Chosen. It is estimated that at least five million *hoku* of rice and other cereals will be found short this year. At the most conservative estimate, this shortage of the staple food means the loss of a hundred million *yen*. Somehow or other the Government must make the loss good and provide the sufferers from the drought with food and clothing. It is really a stupendous task.

Nevertheless we are not pessimistic. Even before the new Governor-General and the new Ad-

ministrative Superintendent left Tokyo for their posts, they had seen the gravity of the problem and had drawn up a plan for solving it. They have now set themselves to the work by appointing a committee to study measures to be taken, so that no people shall die for want of food. On this committee, Dr. Midzuno, whose great administrative ability is universally recognized, is again chairman. Confidence may well be reposed in him and his subordinates that they will satisfactorily discharge their duties and win for themselves the gratitude of the Korean masses and that of their well-wishers.

### Fighting the Cholera Epidemic.

(Friday, Oct. 3)

Seoul has fortunately not as yet been invaded by cholera, but the epidemic is still raging in many places in the interior. According to an official report, up to September 30 altogether 4,792 cases appeared throughout the peninsula, the patients including 3,859 Koreans, 101 Japanese, and

9 Chinese. Of these 3,017 Koreans, 56 Japanese, and 5 Chinese died. The epidemic, having come from Manchuria, was at first most virulent in the northern provinces, but thanks to the strenuous efforts put forth by the authorities to stamp it out, it has now very much subsided there. It is now the southern provinces, that are in danger of being overrun by it, the town of Kangkyong on the Honam Line having already reported 104 cases.

The people at large in Chosen know but little how, in face of great difficulty and personal peril, the authorities concerned are fighting the scourge. Accordingly they scarcely think of expressing their appreciation of the beneficent work the authorities are carrying on for protecting them from the attack of the terrible disease. But we believe that if it were known, the general public would only be too ready to give due credit to the authorities for it. A representative of ours has just had the privilege of interviewing Surgeon-General Dr. Haga, President of the Government-General Hospital in Seoul, who is directing the campaign against cholera, and has obtained some interesting

details concerning it. These are given below :

The work of preventing or stamping out the epidemic is extremely difficult on account of Korean people lacking the elementary knowledge of hygiene. They know that cholera is contagious but do not know how it spreads. For instance, they have no idea that the cholera bacillus is transmitted through food and drink. In consequence, when a man dies from cholera his relatives and friends do not hesitate to come to his house to express their condolence with the bereaved family. It is usual on such occasions that the visitors are entertained with food and drink. It is also very rare that, when death takes place in a family, the authorities are immediately informed of it even though it has been caused by cholera. It is also very difficult to isolate an infected house, for though such a house is placed under police surveillance, the inmates will seize every opportunity to go out, especially during the night time. For all these reasons, the epidemic, when it occurs in a place, usually spreads with alarming rapidity before the authorities can take measures to prevent it.

To combat the scourge, the authorities have organized more than twenty epidemic prevention corps, each corps being composed of three to six physicians, fifteen nurses, one pharmacist, one assistant pharmacist and one policeman. These corps, each led by an expert bacteriologist, have been despatched to infected places to treat patients, disinfect infected houses, and prevent the spread of the epidemic in other ways in co-operation with the local authorities. Besides these, about twenty-five mobile epidemic prevention corps have also been organized. Each of these is composed of one physician and one or two nurses, and when a case is reported at a place other than those already infected, it is instantly sent there to undertake similar work.

All cholera patients are treated free and, in places having no isolation hospitals, houses are temporarily borrowed to convert them into such. Vaccine injection is also given free to all desiring it. In this connection it is gratifying that people have begun to appreciate its efficacy and the number of those desiring to be given it is rapidly increasing. They are

also given free creosote pills. In addition, when infected houses or villages are isolated, food, boiled drinking water, and other supplies are distributed free among all the inmates.

It goes without saying that all qualified physicians practising in infected places have been called to service. It is to their great credit that they have rendered and are rendering very valuable service. Still a shortage in expert bacteriologists having been found, thirty experts have been invited from the Government Infectious Diseases Investigation Laboratory and the similar institution conducted by Dr. Kitazato in Tokyo, each at the salary of 500 *yen* a month. They have already arrived and are at work in Chosen.

As may be expected this campaign against cholera entails a great expenditure. Already 600,000 *yen* has been appropriated to it, but the fund having been found still short, the defrayment of 300,000 *yen* more will soon be asked for. But the expenditure of money, great as it, is of little consideration. It is the toil and self-sacrifice of the physicians, nurses, and policemen, who have been and are working day and

night under great difficulties, in comfortless places and in face of personal peril, that we should not forget. But for their efforts, cholera would have ravaged the entire peninsula, daily claiming thousands of victims as it did in former days. In Seoul alone, as Dr. J. S. Gale says in an article entitled "Cholera in Korea" which we reprinted in these columns a few weeks ago, 800, 900, 1,000 dead a day used to be the record before the Japanese undertook the administration of this peninsula. Even though the epidemic may invade the city, we may rest assured that no such terrible record will have again to be put down. For this, hats off to the authorities.

### Relief of Sufferers from Drought.

(Sunday, Oct. 12)

We have already referred in these columns to the gloomy prospect of famine during the coming winter in north-western Chosen in consequence of the severe drought experienced there in summer last. We reported that the Government

had organised a committee with Dr. Midzuno, Administrative Superintendent, as chairman to study the measures to be taken for the relief of sufferers and that it had despatched Mr. Nishimura, Director of the Industrial Bureau, to the affected region to inspect the actual conditions. Mr. Nishimura returned from his trip some days ago and reports that the affected region comprises Kyongki, North and South Choongchong, South Kyongsang, Whanghai, North Pyong-an, Kangwon, and South Hamkyong Provinces. The drought continued for forty-five days and according to people of the localities affected, was so severe that the like of it had not been experienced for many years past. Mr. Nishimura found that the severity of the natural calamity differed in degree in different places. There are many places where practically no agricultural crops were obtained, while others more or less crops were obtained. In districts most severely affected the majority of inhabitants are face to face with hunger during the coming winter. As to measures to be taken for their relief, Mr. Nishimura states :—

The Government will encourage landowners and wealthy people to help their tenants and poorer folks as best as they can, and in cases where it is found necessary will free them from paying the land tax for this year or reduce the amount of it in their favour. The Government will also start the construction of new highways, so as to give work to sufferers. To those in extremely needy circumstances and who are physically unfit for labour and so cannot earn wages, the Government will give free food. Above all, the Government is taking pains to provide ways and means for transporting to and distributing food among the affected districts, so that there may be no shortage of it at any place and at any time.

All these plans are excellent and we have none other to suggest to the authorities. We are confident that, though the relief work in question is a big task, the authorities will handle it in a satisfactory and successful manner. Only we should like to say that, in executing the relief measures, the authorities should be very prompt and allow no red-tapeism to stand in their way. A gift given

in time is more appreciated than two given too late. So when the least sign is noticed that people are hungry, there should be no tedious and complicated official investigation of their condition, but the hand of succour should be promptly extended to them. It is better to be too generous than to be too miserly in all such matters. Another thing which we urge the authorities to remember is that they should not think of relying on foreign help. It is possible that foreign missionaries and other foreigners in this country will interest themselves in the matter and raise subscriptions amongst themselves and their friends abroad for the relief of sufferers. Of course, should such foreign help be offered, the authorities should gratefully receive it, but it behooves them to be so thorough and successful in their work that no foreigners will feel the need of their help. Japan is now rich enough to undertake single-handed the feeding of any number of starving people of her own.

## Campaign of Slander.

(Thursday, Sept. 18)

It is evident that for some time past some sinister force has been at work in America to stir up ill feeling in the American people against Japan and injure the traditional friendly relations existing between the two nations. The Shantung issue and the Korean question have been made capital of by those engaged in this nefarious work, innumerable being the stories printed in the American press representing Japan in the blackest possible colour. An American friend of ours has just written us that there is certainly some money being spent somewhere in the States in a campaign against Japan, those conducting it taking advantage of the comparative ignorance of the American people concerning the Far Eastern situation. Our friend, who is a prominent writer and an authority on things Japanese, says that he is doing, and will do, all that he can to help the Japanese cause. He hopes, and believes that, with time, the whole matter will be cleared up satisfactorily.

We share the hope and belief of our good friend, whom we have

just quoted, that the present campaign of slander against Japan will gradually disappear as the American people learn by degrees what Japan has been doing and will do concerning Shantung and Chosen. As, however, the sooner the sky is cleared up the better it is for both America and Japan, we must do all we can to correct these misrepresentations and exaggerations which have been so unscrupulously disseminated in the States by the enemies of Japan.

We are grateful that, while Japan has many enemies, she has also many good friends, like the gentleman we have mentioned, who have done and will do much on her behalf to disillusion the American people. Leaders of the Japanese people, regardless whether they are in the service of the Government or not, must endeavour to help such American friends of ours by supplying them with correct information and other material, so as to facilitate the good work they are doing for our country. As a matter of fact, our leaders greatly neglected to pay due attention to this important matter. That is, in our opinion, one of the chief causes why our country has to suffer to-day from



the unjust and malicious accusation being constantly made against it in foreign countries, particularly in America, that she is another Germany. To free herself from the odium of this accusation, Japan must show by deed that she is not what she is represented to be and thus let the world know it.

With regard to the Korean problem in particular, we may quote here an article which appeared in the San Francisco *Examiner* of August 15. It is an example of the astonishing stories that have lately been appearing in many American papers. It is headed "Missionaries Abused by Japs" and runs as follows:—

Attacks on American missionaries in Korea, as well as a Hun-like clutch on the entire country, is the charge made against the Japanese by the Rev. Henry G. Welbon, a missionary to Korea, who arrived here yesterday on the Pacific Mail liner *Ecuador*.

Welbon, who escaped from Korea only through his knowledge of the language and by a careful disguise, said that he had seen three American missionaries, whose names he did not know as he was in disguise and could not interfere, beaten by Japanese soldiers in the main street of Seoul. He said:

Japanese government of Korea is a frightful thing. The Koreans are bound in nothing short of slavery and a system of frightfulness is keeping the people in subjection.

I have come here to attempt to rouse the people of the United States to the terrible things that are going on in Korea under Japanese rule.

It is worse than the worst that was ever told of the Germans in Belgium.

In Seoul alone there are thousands of Koreans in jail for alleged political offences. The Koreans are attempting to rise against the grinding of the Japanese heel, but they can do little without outside help.

The Stars and Stripes mean nothing to the Japanese in Korea. They laugh at the United States and do what they will with American missionaries. I was stationed in Pyongyang and made my escape from the country, after repeated threats and insults from the Japanese only after disguising myself, my wife and daughter.

On the way to the coast in Seoul I saw three missionaries attacked by Japanese soldiers with bayonets on their rifles. They were evidently Americans and I believe that at least two of them were badly wounded. It was impossible for me to interfere. It is a case for interference by our government.

The Koreans are revolting as they can. Some of the more courageous started the publication of a paper in defense of their country, but the paper was suppressed and the publishers disappeared.

It will be seen that the story is very cleverly woven. It is not entirely false, but is a gross exaggeration. For instance, the allegation that three American missionaries were beaten in the main street of Seoul is absolutely groundless. But it is unfortunately true that a missionary was roughly treated by some Japanese at a provincial town during a disturbance there. The authorities duly apologised to him and the matter was closed. Except for this case and another, in which two American ladies had an un-

pleasant experience at Pyongyang, also during a disturbance, no similar incidents occurred anywhere during the whole course of the disturbances. As for the story that its narrator and his family escaped in disguise, it is simply ridiculous. No less misleading are all the other allegations made in his narrative, but it is not our purpose here to refute them. Our purpose in quoting it is to show to our authorities and people at large to what extent they are being misrepresented in America. It is of no use to be angry at the disseminators of such stories. Let us leave them alone. Some day they will see their error and repent. What is important for all of us to be very careful about is that we should act in such a way that will give our enemies no cause to attack us with any degree of authority.

### Korean Question at Peace Conference.

(Sunday, Sept. 21)

Captain K. Nomura, of the Imperial Navy, who was a member of the suite of the Japanese Peace Delegation to Paris, recently visiting town, has given an interesting

account of the Peace Conference to a representative of the *Keijo Nippo*, referring particularly to the movement of representatives of Korean agitators. He says that there were numerous movements behind the scenes, including those of Chinese and Koreans, which concerned Japan. Not to speak of the Chinese movements, the agitation carried on in Paris by leaders of Korean malcontents did not attract even the slightest attention of the Peace Conference. Not only was the Korean problem never discussed at the peace table, but it was not even made a topic of conversation by secretaries of the conference. To those Koreans, who, in their ignorance of world politics, labour under the delusion that the Korean problem was made a subject of discussion at the Peace Conference, Captain Nomura would like to say that they are greatly mistaken in holding such an idea.

The Peace Conference, Captain Nomura goes on to say, was held primarily to discuss peace terms to be imposed on Germany and her allies and also the league of nations. In consequence many important questions, such as those relating to labour, restriction of

armament, freedom of high seas, and so forth, were brought up for discussion one after another. There was no time for the conference to consider such a trivial question as the theory of Korean independence, a theory emanating from an erroneous interpretation of the idea of racial self-determination. The American people, to whom Korean malcontents look up to as their supporters, fully understand as a whole the standpoint of Japan, and have no idea whatever of supporting them at the risk of wounding the feeling of the Japanese. There is, it is true, a small section of Americans who are in sympathy with the aspiration of Korean agitators, but the great majority of the people of the States are entirely indifferent to it, having no interest in the Korean problem.

The binding force of the League of Nations, concludes Captain Nomura, became very much restricted after it was discussed at the Peace Conference. It does not commit any nations subscribing to it to interference in the domestic affairs of other nations. The Korean question is an internal affair of Japan, and Japan alone is entitled to solve it. It is a great

mistake to think that it will be considered at the coming conference of the League to be held in the States before long.

## Newspapers in Chosen.

(Sunday, Sept., 28)

A little news item appearing in our yesterday's issue is, we think, worth a comment. It is as follows : —

"Official permission has been granted the *Chosen Shinbun*, published at Chemulpo, to remove its office to Seoul. Our contemporary will establish its new office in Koganemachi 2-chome."

We take this as the forerunner of the realization of the promise made by the new Government-General that there should be no arbitrary interference with the freedom of speech and the press. As a matter of fact, under the old regime it was practically impossible for any body to start a new newspaper in Chosen, and no newspaper could change its place of publication. The *Chosen Shinbun* above referred to had its office at Chemulpo for a long time, but was practically a metropolitan paper. It collects its news material mostly at Seoul, has its editorial and business offices here, and most of its subscribers are

inhabitants of the capital. In spite of all this, our contemporary had to continue its publication at Chemulpo, because the authorities would not grant permission to its reasonable application frequently made in the past to shift its publishing office to Seoul. The authorities seem to have had an unwritten law to which they were fast bound that there should be no two newspapers in any place and no newspaper should be allowed to change its place of publication, nor any new daily journal permitted to be started in Chosen.

In justice to the authorities it must be said that in following this rule they had a very good motive. In days before annexation, this peninsula had too many newspapers. In Seoul, for instance, there were published several Japanese, four or five Korean, and two English daily papers. One bad result of this was that all of them suffered from financial difficulties and many of their proprietors and editors were compelled to resort to not altogether clean methods to increase their incomes. As might be expected, it was chiefly citizens of Seoul who suffered the consequence. Partly to protect them and partly

to prevent the publication of seditious and inflammatory news and opinions at the time of transition, the authorities considered it advisable to make one paper for one city an established rule. This policy was continued for nearly ten years. It cannot be said that it was altogether bad, but there can be no denying that it was a policy to be pursued for a time only and not to be continued for so long a time.

The permission just given the *Chosen Shimbun* to shift its place of publication, though a trivial matter in itself, is a straw showing in what direction the wind is beginning to blow. It shows that the authorities are ready to grant the reasonable desires of the people without regard to antiquated precedents and rules. It also shows, we earnestly hope, that they are now ready to grant the freedom of the press. We hear that since the new Governor-General announced his intended reforms, a few Korean and Japanese journalists have applied for permission to start new journals. Provided they are respectable men of good standing, there is, we think, no reason why the Government should refuse their applica-

tions. We need not say that newspapers are very useful organs, through which the authorities can find out popular grievances and hear popular opinions. It is manifest from several things they have already undertaken that the new Governors of Chosen sincerely desire to know the popular minds. If so, they will do well if they allow the publication of new journals at the earliest possible date. It will be a reform, which will be welcomed by all.

### The Safety Valve.

(Saturday, Oct. 4)

The Government did well in forestalling and frustrating all plots of Korean agitators to disturb the peace and order of Seoul on October 1, the ninth anniversary of the Government-General régime. For some days preceding that day, ominous rumours had been in the air that something unusual would take place in the city, fear having even been entertained in some quarters that it would witness some scenes of bloodshed. To prevent any such untoward occurrences, the

authorities put the city under very strict police surveillance, even, according to a report, for the authenticity of which we are not prepared to vouch, going to the length of putting under detention about one hundred and fifty people of suspicious character. Probably due to the precautionary measures taken by the authorities, nothing serious took place on the memorable day. Some Korean shops in Chongno Street closed their doors during the morning, but in consequence of a warning issued to their keepers by the Governor of the Metropolitan Province, all of them reopened by noon. Except this, all was quiet in the city and it has since continued to be so.

None are, however, so foolish as to think that the nefarious activities of Korean agitators have been completely checked. Far from it, there is every reason to expect that they will renew their efforts to hamper the reform work of the new Government and seize every opportunity that may present itself to incite the masses to fresh rioting. It is their life and business to keep up agitations against the Government, so that the latter may have little time to carry out its liberal policy and

win back the hearts of the Korean people at large. It is to be expected that the situation will be far from being reassuring for many days to come. Meanwhile the Government cannot but help maintaining the resolute attitude it has been taking, so as to prevent any serious development appearing.

Nevertheless, we venture to urge the authorities to be prompt in carrying out their promised reforms. Above all we earnestly hope that they will relax their control of the press and permit the publication of Korean papers. We need not say that the demonstrations of March last were the outburst of pent-up feelings of the Korean people, who had not been allowed to speak out their minds for ten long years. All their complaints, dissatisfactions, and grievances, that had not been given expression to and had been accumulating for that length of time, were brought out in that one shout, "Mansei!" Will the new Government still refuse to hear the popular voice through the press? We think not. We trust that the authorities have fully digested the bitter pills of experience and are now prepared to provide a safety

valve for popular grievances by allowing the Korean people to have their own press.

After this has been done and the people have had organs for ventilating their discontent, and after the Government has carried out other reform measures it has in contemplation, the authorities may rightly take strong measures against the people should they still show themselves recalcitrant. The Government must first yield to their reasonable demands, and, after this is done, it is perfectly right for it to expect them to be peaceful and law-abiding. If, however, the Government expects the people to be docile before conceding their rational desires, we are very much afraid that it will commit a fatal mistake.

### Treatment of Koreans.

(Friday, Sept., 26)

In the course of an address delivered to an assembly of Directors of the Branches of the Bank of Chosen, recently in session in Seoul, Mr. Minobe, the Governor of the Bank, referred to the desirability of brotherly relations

being established between Japanese and Koreans. He said that the task of bringing about such relations between the two peoples should not be left to the authorities alone, but that the general public should coöperate with the authorities in consummating it. Mr. Minobe thought that one of the best means to bring Japanese and Korean people into closer relations was the establishment of intimate economic relations between them. He hoped that his hearers would not only endeavour to remove whatever misunderstanding that existed between them, but would help in the promotion of their closer economic relations.

All will cordially endorse this wise suggestion of the Governor of the Bank of Chosen. It does not need any argument to show that unless the people at large are willing, whatever measure, however good, taken by the Government to reconcile Japanese and Koreans will be of little avail. Both people should strive to live in peace and perfect harmony, each showing towards the other a spirit of self-sacrifice. Particularly is it to be hoped that Japanese will try hard to win the

hearts of Koreans with whom they come into contact. This is for their own advantage. None can succeed in his business in any place, unless he is directly or indirectly helped by the people among whom he lives and works. This is especially true in Chosen. The Korean people are very sentimental and are particularly susceptible to little acts of love and kindness. Accordingly, it is generally found that those Japanese who have achieved success in their avocations are those who are kind to their Korean neighbours and are regarded by them as their friends. Cases of good Japanese living in the interior, who were protected by their Korean friends during the recent disturbances, are not few. In view of this, all Japanese living in the peninsula should learn that it is for their own advantage that they treat Koreans with brotherly feelings, and if there are still any who continue to behave themselves arrogantly towards them, such men should be taught to mend their ways.

On the other hand, we hope that intelligent Koreans will teach their subordinates that equal

treatment comes only when the Korean people prove themselves the equals of Japanese in every respect, in education, in wealth, in culture. A well-educated young Korean gentleman, who has just returned to Seoul from Hokkaido, where he had gone to inspect the conditions of Korean labourers employed in some big collieries there, has reported to us that he found no discrimination whatever in the treatment accorded to them and to the Japanese labourers. In fact Koreans being generally stronger than Japanese were being given better treatment and higher wages. For instance, they had Korean houses specially built for them to live in and were entitled to buy at half the current price more rice than their Japanese confreres, which their employers sold for their benefit. The Korean labourers, our informant said, were generally in so desirable a position that voices asking for equal treatment were occasionally raised by the Japanese miners.

This example should convince all intelligent Koreans that the question of discrimination in treatment is a question of ability. If Korean people will only show they are the equals, even superiors,

of Japanese in ability, they will soon have no reason of complaining about discrimination in their treatment. What, therefore, they must first endeavour to do is to improve themselves.

### Force or Love ?

(Wednesday, Oct. 1)

At a recent meeting of representative Japanese journalists, at which a representative of the *Seoul Press* was also present, the present situation in Chosen was naturally the chief topic of conversation. It was observed by our representative that, except himself, all the pressmen present expressed themselves in favour of repressive measures being taken by the authorities to cope with it. It is not surprising that, in view of the dastardly attempt made on the life of the new Governor-General on the day of his arrival at his post, and the continuance of the nefarious activities of Korean agitators since that day, such opinions are gaining ground. But it is remarkable that only a month or so ago there were among the journalists referred to



some who advocated liberal policies for Chosen. Doubtless there are many people who, formerly kindly disposed towards the Korean people, have changed, like them, their opinion as to the proper attitude to be taken towards them. We are very much afraid that unless this spirit and sentiment of impatience and anger be checked in some way or other, some very bad results will appear, causing innocent and peaceful Korean masses to suffer the worst consequences.

It is an easy matter for the authorities to coerce the Korean people into submission by force. By resorting to it they will no doubt succeed speedily in making the whole peninsula, now so restless, once more as tranquil as before. But it should not be forgotten that tranquillity ushered in by such a method will not last long. It should be adopted only as the last resort, when rioting takes place and violence is shown by rioters.

For having alienated and embittered the feelings of the Korean people, we should blame none but ourselves. It behooves us to do all we can to reconcile them by showing them that we are sincere

friends of theirs. To win them back, let us confront them with love instead of force. We urge all Japanese leaders to enjoin those following them to be patient and magnanimous with the Korean people, to treat them with kindness and so ultimately win their hearts.

It is to be supposed that Baron Saito and Dr. Midzuno have been pestered with advice and suggestions to change their liberal policy. We trust, however, that they are too great statesmen to waver in their determination and change their minds. For some time to come the reforms they have promised may not be appreciated by the Korean people, and the latter may continue to show themselves restless and cross, but if they will resolutely carry them on, we trust that success will ultimately fall into their hands. It is lasting peace and good will that it is their aim to establish in this peninsula. Nothing but a policy of love will enable them to do so. It is a slow work requiring great patience, but is the only sure way of success.

## Self-Conceit of Koreans.

(Sunday, Oct., 5)

A tendency is observable that many Japanese living in Chosen are displeased at the changed attitude and behaviour towards them of the Korean people in general. They complain that Koreans, particularly young Koreans, have lately become extremely self-conceited, argumentative and unmanageable, that they are insolent towards them, and that when they are given some concession they want more. This change in the behaviour of the Korean people towards the Japanese is largely attributed by those Japanese to the promise of administrative reforms given and the tolerant attitude taken towards the Korean people by the new Government-General. They, therefore, desire that the authorities revert to the old strict method of government. Are they, however, reasonable in their complaint and desire?

We must admit that their complaint is not altogether without ground, such things as they object to being observable in the acts and utterances of many Koreans. In fact, the way in which

not a few young Koreans act and speak is provoking and shows what undue value they place on their own importance. It is not surprising that those knowing their real value cannot help but be disgusted and offended at their conceit, and consider that they should be subjected to stern discipline.

Nevertheless it seems to us that instead of being displeased at the changed behaviour of the Korean people, the Japanese in Chosen should be gratified at, and proud of it. For has it not been the consistent policy of our Government to change the Koreans from the decadent and slavish people they formerly were? For what purpose has our Government encouraged education among them and established schools for them? For what purpose has our Government developed industry in this peninsula and increased the wealth of the Korean people? It goes without saying that the diffusion of modern education, the promotion of productive industry, and all the numerous other measures taken by our Government to improve conditions in this peninsula during the last ten years have had as their chief aim the

re-making of the Koreans into a capable and self-respecting people. It can not be said that this policy of the Government has been carried out with perfect success. Mistakes have been committed and better methods might have been employed. Nevertheless, even the worst opponent of the Government-General regime will admit that the policy carried out has been fruitful of good results. The Korean people in general are incomparably better off to-day than they were ten years ago. They are richer both in knowledge and material wealth. It is only natural that they now want to assert themselves and claim equality in all matters with the Japanese. True, they frequently overvalue themselves and put forth claims such as they scarcely deserve. But such a phase is inevitable in a transition period like the present. Let anybody, now rich in the experience of life, and wise and sober in his idea, look back at his conduct in his younger days. Did he not consider himself as the centre of the universe and the wisest man in the world? Did not all his elders appear to him as a group of old imbeciles, blind to the progress of the times and deaf to the voice of

reason? Did he not behave towards them with anything but politeness and put before them undue claims for himself? To us it appears that the Korean people are now in such a mood and temperament. Because they have learned something and obtained some money, they think themselves as capable as others of doing anything and everything. For having made them so, the Japanese should be thankful, for it is a sign of the success of their work done for them. The time will come when the Korean people will become wiser, moderate in their ideas, and reasonable in their claims, just as a self-conceited young man fresh from college becomes a respectable citizen as his knowledge and experience ripen.

### No Rising Sun Displayed on National Holidays.

(Tuesday, Oct. 7)

No Rising Sun is hoisted by Koreans at their doors on national holidays. This is a fact and a very unpleasant fact to Japanese. Mr. Shakuo, Editor of the *Chosen and Manchuria*, a Japanese monthly published in Seoul, takes

up the subject for discussion in its latest issue. Besides publishing his own, Mr. Shakuo quotes the opinions on the matter of several leading Japanese gentlemen, including Mr. N. Watanabe, President of the Supreme Court. We note none of them are pleased at the Korean behaviour in question, but differ in their opinions as to what should be done regarding it. It is the Editor who is most outspoken. He considers it an act of traitors, reflecting contempt on the prestige of the Japanese Empire, and advocates the infliction of punishment by fines and flogging to all Koreans refusing to hoist the national flag on national holidays. A few gentlemen are not so strong in their opinion, but seem to be favourably inclined towards Mr. Shakuo's idea. Mr. Watanabe, however, does not approve it and expresses himself to the following effect :—

“ It is a matter of reprehensibleness, but it is open to doubt whether it is wise to force Koreans to fly the Rising Sun on national holidays. By taking such a measure, the Korean feelings against Japan might be aggravated and some bad effect might evidence itself against the smooth working of

the administration. The national flag is a symbol of patriotism, and its display should only be the expression of free will. People should not be coerced to show their sentiment in such matters. In my opinion, the first thing we should do is to let the Korean people clearly see that it is for their best interest that their country remains united to Japan.”

We need scarcely say that we entirely agree with Mr. Watanabe. Patriotism can never be forced into the minds of people and any false show of it is more than worthless. If anybody thinks that, because the Korean people show the Rising Sun and Korean children lustily sing the national anthem on Japanese red-letter days, they really love the Empire and are its loyal citizens, he is a fool. It is only less than ten years since Japan and Korea became one and it is the height of folly to expect that the Koreans should have lost all their national spirit to the extent of loving Japan as much as the Japanese do within so short a time. We must be patient and wait until they clearly understand the benefit of being subjects of the Empire. What matters it if they do

not act as the Japanese do with regard to such a trivial matter? It is possible that many of them do not dare display the Rising Sun for fear of agitators. Leave them entirely alone and let us proceed with our work in this peninsula without flinching. The time will surely come when the Korean people will sincerely rejoice that they are subjects of the Japanese Empire and show their love of it voluntarily and enthusiastically whenever occasion demands it.

### Arrest of the Bomb-thrower.

(Wednesday, Oct. 8)

We are truly gratified at the

news \*that the fanatic, who made a futile attempt on the life of the Governor-General on the occasion of his arrival at his post, has at last been brought within the grip of the law. We congratulate the police on this particular achievement of theirs, for thereby they have recovered the prestige which they greatly lost in the eyes of the general public by failing to arrest the man on the spot of his dastardly act. It is not, however, so much for the sake of the police that we are glad at the news of the capture of the would-be assassin, as for that of peaceful and law-abiding Koreans. As long as he was at large, there existed an atmosphere of insecurity and anxiety, because the police naturally could not relax their

\* The news as published by the *Seoul Press* reads:—

The authorities announce that the man who attempted to kill Baron Saito, the Governor-General, on September 2 on his arrival in Seoul from Tokyo, was arrested in a Korean house in town on September 17. The man is one Kang Ookiu, 65 years of age. He was born at Tokchon, South Pyongan Province, and is a Christian belonging to the Presbyterian Church. After living in Hongwon District, South Hamkyong Province, for many years, he removed to Chientao, ten years ago. Four years ago he again removed to a town in Kirin Province, established a school for Korean children, and also engaged in evangelistic work, often travelling to Vladivostock and other Russian towns and associating with Korean malcontents. He was one of those Koreans abroad who believed that Korea became really independent in March only to be disappointed by learning that such an event never took place. It will be remembered that seven

old Koreans came to Seoul from Vladivostock some time in April, and shouted "Mansei!" in Chongno Street and that one of them, the father of Yi Tonghui, "War Minister of the Provisional Government of Korea," cut his own throat, though not fatally. The old men, though arrested by the police on the occasion, were afterwards released and sent back to Vladivostock, having been fully disillusioned of their fantastic dream. Kang, the would-be assassin, thought that these old men had been bought by the Japanese Government and decided to show them that he was of a different character. He bought a bomb from a Russian, reached Wonsan by steamer and thence arrived in Seoul disguised as a merchant some time before the arrival of Baron Saito. After the failure of his attempt on his life on September 2, he made good his escape and was in hiding under an assumed name until he was arrested by the Honmachi Police. He has just been sent to the Public Procurator's Office for further examination.

watchful attitude, and many Koreans, particularly those who were marked men, were in constant fear of being arrested at any moment. Now that the man sought after has been captured, the police can turn their attention to other directions, and the people at large may feel freer.

Mr. Akaike, Director of Police Affairs, in a press interview is quoted as having stated that, though the bomb-thrower had been arrested, there was no disputing the fact that many agitators were constantly at work to disturb the peace and order of society. As these men were real enemies of peaceful people, the authorities would spare no pains to check their wicked activities and hunt them down unto the very corners of the earth. In fact, Mr. Akaike continued, the authorities were resolved to stamp them out by all lawful means, no matter whether they lived at home or abroad. In carrying out this policy, he might be criticised for being too severe, but he was convinced that it was his duty to do so, as it would ultimately result in the benefit of all good people.

On its merits, this declaration of Mr. Akaike leaves no room for criticism. Only we would like to take the liberty of suggesting to the able Director of Police Affairs that he should take great care in giving orders to his subordinates to carry out his policy. It often happens that, too eager to execute their duty and distinguish themselves, lower class officials, lacking in both tact and intelligence, go to the extreme in the discharge of their duty. In such cases, instead of ushering in peace, they frequently bring about a state of things the very opposite of what the higher authorities desire to see. The example of Russia, when that country was under the rule of a despotic government, might be taken as a good lesson. A police system staffed with too many men and having too many spies in its service does more harm than good in the safe-guarding of society, making all people nervous and restless. Mr. Akaike is an enlightened official with liberal ideas. We can be confident that he will not repeat the blunder of the defunct Russian Government.

## Plight of Korean Agitators in Shanghai.

(Thursday, Oct. 9)

A local paper publishes a report to the effect that members of the so-called provisional Government of the Republic of Korea in Shanghai have lately been experiencing great difficulty in maintaining their government and themselves. They have now learned that it is impossible for them to realize their fantastic dream. They had relied upon foreign sympathy and support in their movement, but found that, although a very small section of American people responded to their appeal with empty expressions of sympathy, no substantial support was forthcoming even from them, much less from other foreigners. On the other hand, the funds they have been secretly collecting from Koreans at home by dangling before their eyes all sorts of sweet promises, are rapidly dwindling, while owing to the vigilance exercised by the authorities as well as to the disillusionment of their countrymen, whom they have been duping, they are unable to refill their coffers. Especially have they been discouraged by the opposi-

tion shown to their movement by leading Koreans in Manchuria. In these circumstances, the "government" they have established is all but passing away, what they are now racking their brains over being how to dissolve it under some plausible excuse and so save their faces as well as their lives. They will shortly despatch a few representatives to Tokyo with a mission to appeal to the Government for pardon.

We do not know how far the above report is correct, but can well imagine that the prospect is not very bright for the "Provisional Government of the Republic of Korea." From the very beginning it was the conclusion of all intelligent people that it would come to such a pass. We are not at all surprised to hear that the Korean agitators are in a position of dilemma and cannot help but feel that they are reaping the fruit of the wild oats they have sown. Nevertheless we are far from hating them. On the contrary we entertain nothing but sympathy towards them. No doubt what they did was bad enough, but no fair-minded people can find fault with the motive which caused them to do it. If they are sincere-

ly penitent, we shall be only too glad to come to terms with them and co-operate with them in the task of improving conditions in this country. The Government of Japan has never been intolerant towards its opponents. There are many instances in which the Government not only pardoned rebel leaders but gave them high official positions. For example, the late Admiral Yenomoto, who was Minister of the Navy, and the late Viscount Otori, who was once Minister to Korea, were leaders of rebels in the early days of the Meiji era. The late Count Mutsu, who was Minister of Foreign Affairs for many years, took the side of the rebels during the Satsuma Rebellion in 1877, and was kept in prison for some years on that account. Mr. Kono, a prominent member of the Kensei Kwai, who was Minister

of Communications in the Okuma Cabinet, spent several years in prison for a political offence. Besides these prominent men, we can cite instances of minor men, who were once opponents of the Government but were afterwards pardoned and taken into favour by it. We shall not do so, however, as we have said enough to show that the Government of Japan has never been vindictive, but has always been glad to take into its service men of talent and ability, even though they once stood against it, provided that they showed their willingness to assist it in all sincerity. We are confident that if the Korean leaders in Shanghai and elsewhere approach the Government for reconciliation in a spirit of sincerity, they will find the latter broadminded enough to listen to their voices.





# **APPENDICES**



## APPENDIX A

### Baron Saito, New Governor-General of Chosen.\*

#### A LIFE SKETCH

Admiral Baron Makoto Saito, the new Governor-General of Chosen, was born on October 27, 1858, at the small town of Midzusawa in the north-eastern part of Japan. He was the eldest son of Mr. Kohei Saito, a *Samurai* of the great clan of Sendai. It is a remarkable fact that his native town was also the birthplace of another great statesman of modern Japan, Baron Shimpei Goto, who was Minister of Foreign Affairs in the late Cabinet under Count Terauchi. It seems that in their boyhood both suffered hardships and privations, for they had to earn a meagre living by serving as pages in local government office. By their intelligence and faithful service, they soon distinguished themselves and gained the patronage of some influential men. They were sent at their expense to Tokyo to prosecute their studies and carve out for themselves great and useful careers.

\* This article by Mr. I. Yamagata, Editor of the *Seoul Press*, appeared in the October issue of the *Korean Mission Field*.

Young Saito entered, in 1872, the Kaigun Heigakuryo, the predecessor of the present Naval College on the little island of Etajima in the Inland Sea. Six years later he graduated from the school with distinction and was appointed second Sub-Lieutenant. From that time the future Governor-General was for many years in the service of the Imperial Navy. In 1884 he was a Sub-Lieutenant and was sent to Washington as Naval Attaché to the Japanese Legation there. He remained in Washington for four years and then was recalled to be attached to the Naval Staff Board as Lieutenant. Afterwards he was successively made Staff Officer of the Standing Squadron and acting Commander of the gunboat *Takao*. At the outbreak of the Chino-Japanese war, he held the post of Naval Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor, but was appointed Chief Staff Officer of the Standing Squadron and rendered distinguished service, being decorated with the Fourth Class of the Order of the Golden Kite at the close of the war. He was Commander in 1878 and visited England that year to bring home the battleship *Fuji*. Next year he was promoted

to the rank of Captain, and after some time of service at sea was appointed Vice-Minister of the Navy. He was made Rear-Admiral in 1900, and Vice-Admiral in 1904. In January, 1906. he was appointed Minister of the Navy, and in April of that year, besides being created a Baron, he had conferred upon him the Second Class of the Order of the Golden Kite as well as the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun in recognition of the meritorious services he rendered during the Russo-Japanese War. He held the post of the Minister of the Navy for nine years, meanwhile being promoted to full Admiral, and retired from the office five years ago. On August 12 last, he was appointed Governor-General of Chosen. He married Miss. Haruko Nire, eldest daughter of Admiral Viscount Kagenori Nire, founder of the Imperial Japanese Navy. They have not been blessed with children and have an adopted son.

In spite of his being a naval officer Baron Saito is a democrat with a most charming personality. His Excellency is a very broad-minded statesman with liberal ideas. He is an attentive student of world politics and has the world situation at his fingers' ends. His memory

is wonderful. A friend of mine, who is a newspaper correspondent, met him on a few occasions nearly twenty years ago when he was Vice-Minister of the Navy. After the lapse of so many years during which time my friend did not see him at all, the Governor-General still remembered him and his name when he called on him to pay his respects on arrival in Seoul.

Baron Saito is an indefatigable worker and first rate administrator. Open hearted, magnanimous and brave to a fault, he is one of the greatest statesmen modern Japan has produced. The other day the writer ventured to ask him whether he received the appointment as Governor-General of Chosen as a sailor or a civilian. In reply he stated that he was led to understand that the appointment was given him as a civilian and as such he accepted it. It is really fortunate that Chosen has such a ruler, who has come with the determination of carrying out a very liberal and benevolent administrative policy.

As a private man, Baron Saito is a kind-hearted gentleman and a generous friend, leading a simple and pure life. He speaks ex-

cellent English and has good taste and culture. Baroness Saito is a charming lady, modest in behaviour and loving in disposition, a typical Japanese lady of the higher classes.

## APPENDIX B.

### Cholera in Korea.

By Dr. J. S. Gale

After three or four views of Asiatic cholera at close range and of modern scientific methods of meeting it, two impressions are left, deep-marked and permanent; one of awe over this implacable foe of mankind; and one of admiration for the skilled physicans and police, who, with cool nerve and well-adjusted judgment know how to meet it, grapple with it, down it, and drive it from the field.

For the past two months the vast expanse of the Orient has been at the mercy of this fell disease, China suffering untold misery, with no power to protect her helpless millions, and no knowledge of hygiene back of her whatever. As early as August we heard rumours of cholera in Chefu, in Peking, in Antung, and little by little its approach toward Seoul was reported. Over the border it came persistently, doggedly, *li* after *li*, until the word went forth, "It is with us." It is nothing new for this ancient city to scent cholera, for it has

known it from time immemorial—800, 900, 1,000 dead a day used to be the record. Long lines of bearers would carry away the victims wrapped in matting. No funeral decorations were possible, nothing to charm or wave away malignant spirits, just any method at all to get the dead outside of the city and under ground a foot or two. We have stood and counted them as they moved out—one, two, three, another, another, another, another, on and on and on, till a whole city seemed to be making its exit past us wrapped in matting.

#### A TERRIBLE SCOURGE

This year, too, it began in the regulation way. A city under cholera is truly a battle-field, the enemy veiled completely from view, using smokeless powder and noiseless weapons. Not a sign is there of his whereabouts, or any announcement, till suddenly the friend at your side says, "*Aigo*, I have it," drops as if shot, and with spasm or two crumples up and dies. From another quarter and still another, out goes the call, "*Ho-yul*" (cholera) and the battle is on.

Why this one and that one is

picked off no one knows. Sometimes those most safely shielded are the first to drop. It may be that a fly with his microbe-betangled feet alights on the cake or walks over the food, leaving his deadly footprints. However it comes about, there is a distribution of forces on the enemy's part and all quarters come in for his attack.

This year we had as fine a tournament in the course of the epidemic as was ever seen. It was Japanese and Korean experts against Asiatic cholera. Scores of special police were sworn in, relays of physicians were called for from Japan, and the city was laid out for action.

#### KOREAN RUMOURS.

When a case was discovered, immediately the patient was hurried off to the special hospital, outside of the East Gate and the house put under police surveillance. No one could come out and no one go in. Food and supplies were passed by the hand of the police only, and for a week or more the inmates were thoroughly disinfected and declared safe. The writer's "house-boy" came to say that his wife and

child were down with severe indigestion, but that they would be well in a little while. "Is it cholera?" was asked. "Oh, no; let not the master of the house say such a word, not cholera. If it were cholera we would be dragged out of the city and burned alive. The Japanese are burning all Koreans alive who have symptoms of cholera. Let not the master say cholera." "But if it is, you need help and police regulations require us to make it known"

Poor old Korea, she suffered all these years from doubt, and rumour, and suspicion, until she will believe anything in the world except the truth. Yes, the Japanese were burning cholera patients alive, everybody said so. "Did you see it?" "No; but everybody says so." So fast did this false word carry that the whole city was infected by it. A foolish friend put his wife, sick of the disease, into the wall-box a cubby-hole just over the kitchen, without light or ventilation, and she died. The police found it out, carried away her remains and gave him twenty-one days in jail. Others hid cases until the patients died and then tried to smuggle the

bodies out of the city, but were arrested and I hear were given a term of service in the chain-gang.

A friend went out to investigate their hospital and crematory and found to his surprise that Koreans were treated kindly. In case of death all Japanese were cremated, but not the Koreans; they were buried and the grave marked by a tablet of wood. So I called in the authorities to see my house-boy. The doctor and police came with white coats on, tied close about the wrists, with disinfecting apparatus, etc., to make inspection. They were so gentle and kind that the house-boy was astonished. It was cholera and they took possession. It is over now; the baby died, but the wife lived. The house-boy learned that there were no burnings of the living, and no unkindness even toward the dead, but a firm and strict dealing with this fierce and awful disease.

Printed slips were left in every home in the city: "Suggestions for cholera—Drink only city water, and that boiled. Eat only cooked food, and have it served hot from the fire. Avoid all raw vegetables and over-ripe fruit. Keep your homes clean. Inform the police at once of any cases

that break out."

People were discovered, as of yore, washing cabbage in the street sewers. The cabbage and all its accompaniments were dumped into the garbage waggon for the heap outside the East-Gate.

Police called at the houses every day "All well?" "Yes; all well." "Open all doors. Who is this lying here?" and a friend taking a noonday siesta would be bouled out and have to undergo inspection for cholera. One old-time hermit said, "Good land, you don't even dare to take a snooze these days or they will have you out and cart you off to the crematory!"

Police would suddenly call and demand that all members of the family show themselves. "But there is a young woman, a *sacksee*, in our family, and she can't appear in public; it is contrary to the good custom of our clan."

"Never mind custom, out she comes; we are out inspecting for cholera."

#### GRAND CLEAN-UP.

All the Oriental's ideas of propriety were knocked to pieces by this matter-of-fact police force, composed largely of Koreans

though under Japanese inspectors. Young women as well as old men had to appear and be checked off, well or ill.

Every gutter was scoured out and such a scouring as was never seen for 500 years. Certainly the mayor deserves the thanks of every Korean for the vigorous and efficient way in which he cleaned up a very dirty and pestiferous city. Probably there is not a cleaner city than Seoul in the wide East to-day, and many not so clean in the West.

Wells that had been drunk from for half a millennium were closed with quantities of lime and left deserted. Wrenches belonging to the Water-works Company were left hanging to the hydrants so that any one could draw and use as they pleased, the Government paying for it, thus providing clear and pure water to drink.

Had Korea been left to the tender mercies of herself we should have had thousands of deaths, but as it was, the world's latest modern scientific skill took command, and only about 900 occurred. Thank God for the doctors and the police.



## APPENDIX C.

### Missionaries and the Recent Disturbances in Chosen.\*

By Hon. Katsuo Usami, until recently Director of Home Affairs of the Government General of Chosen.

Rev. Mr. Ishizaka,

Sir,—When you with the Rev. Mr. Gilbert Bowles and Mr. Isamu Kawakami were here in Chosen some weeks ago in person, to observe on the spot the cause or the causes of the recent disturbances, I had the pleasure of frequently meeting you; and it was with a great deal of interest that I read your statement under the heading "The Disturbances in Chosen as seen by the Missionaries" in the morning edition of the *Jiji Shimpō* for July 22. I noticed that you are very painstaking in that statement to make clear the bearing of the missionaries resident in Chosen on the disturbances and I cannot help considering it proper to thank you sincerely for trying thereby to be of assistance to the Government of Chosen.

\* This is a translation of an open letter by Mr. K. Usami addressed to the Rev. Mr. Ishizaka. It is a clear explanation of the attitude taken by the authorities towards foreign missionaries.

That a section of Christians was involved in the recent disturbances is a fact, which no one ventures to deny. Nor is it otherwise to my personal knowledge that the missionaries more than others have had a great deal to say on the matter. I may be permitted to regard it as probable that in your statement in the *Jiji Shimpō*, it was your intention to present the views of a large number of missionaries for the information of the intelligent, but there are not a few passages in it which makes it difficult to know where the missionaries end and where you begin, and which force me to the conclusion that you took it upon yourself to criticize the Government-General of Chosen for what you consider its mal-administration on the strength of the views of the missionaries. Not that criticisms are intolerable; nor am I so narrow-minded as to close my ears to all complaints, but to me it appears that there are more or less discrepancies between what you state and the facts which you assume to relate, which, I fear, may lead to misconceptions on the part of the public. For this reason, I crave your attention to what I take the liberty

to bring to your notice in the following lines.

In the first place, Sir, you speak of the greatness of Christian influence in Chosen, by ignoring which, you say, no undertaking or measures will succeed or at least work smoothly. You proceed next to narrate the meeting which the late Prince Ito, in the days of his Residency General, had with Bishop M. C. Harris, adding that the Prince did not fail at once to recognise the position of missionaries which you say was not to be made light of in Chosen. You then venture to give it as a fact that the troublesome Regulations concerning Religious Propagation and stringent Chosen Educational Ordinance which have been put in force since Annexation, have made the missionaries feel greatly dissatisfied at the Government General. You, Sir, hold it perfectly natural that there should grow mutual understanding and sympathy between these missionaries and the people in general, who felt disaffection toward the authorities, which disaffection originated in the deficiencies of educational system, their social discrimination, and uneasiness as to the preservation of their language

and history. In short you seem to contend that in contrast to recognition given, before Annexation, to the influence of Christianity and the indispensability of missionaries, the Regulations concerning Religious Propagation and the Educational Ordinance, which ignored both, were put in operation, and this formed one of the causes of the recent riots. I do not deny that whoever sets his foot in Chosen notices that the Christian influence must not be disregarded not only because of the largeness of numbers of converts, of their churches, and of missionaries, but also for historical reasons. But I do emphasise that, for those very reasons, the Government-General since its establishment has never failed in profoundly appreciating the influence of Christianity and the usefulness of missionaries in Chosen and of taking advantage of every opportunity to make fully known its policy of administration by sending its delegate, by invitation or of its own accord, to the annual conference, other meetings and school graduation ceremonies of different denominations, to speak on the subject. Nor has the Government-General or its delegate ever been neglectful

of embracing every possible occasion to promote a good understanding and the exchange of views with individual missionaries. That what I have just stated is nothing of less than telling bare truth will, I doubt not, be readily admitted not only by the missionaries but also, Sir, by yourself. Nor does it require any high intelligence to see that in order to save Chosen from her illness and weakness, the accumulation of generations, and to promote her progress, peace and happiness, the work cannot be left to political endeavours alone, but it also requires moral education and spiritual uplifting. And you, Sir, must yourself be perfectly well aware that the Government-General has always been most anxious to secure the helping endeavours of persons of influence of Christian persuasion. Especially has the Government-General made effort to make this point clear to the missionaries. I, myself, soon after annexation, was present at a meeting of missionaries held in Sevrance Hospital in Seoul and spoke on the subject, asking them for their renewed activity. At the same time I took occasion to point out

the fact Chosen was no longer the Korea of old, but formed part of the Japanese Empire, and it was therefore desirous that the missionaries kept themselves well informed of Japan and that they taught the Chosen people as Japanese subjects. I asked, at the time, the "Seoul Press" to publish this speech, which it did, and sought for it to be widely read and understood by the missionaries. I hardly need say that this was not the only occasion when the trust which the Government-General reposed on the missionaries and its desires toward them were given expression to, but that no effort has been spared to seize every possible opportunity to make it widely known.

I admit it as true that the putting in force of the Regulations concerning Religious Propagation and the Educational Ordinance occasioned, at the time, some opposition among the missionaries. However as to your charge that the Regulations are troublesome and the Ordinance stringent, I cannot be without doubt that you, Sir, have not made yourself sufficiently familiar with them to say anything on them. Compared with the pre-Annexation

days, when there were no regulations of any kind, it was unavoidable that the Regulations occasioned a feeling of unnecessary complexity: But the State, which extends protection and privileges to missionaries, is certainly entitled to require periodic reports and certain formalities to obtain permission to engage in missionary work, and such requirements must not be described as troublesome.

The Regulations concerning Religious Propagation in Chosen are practically the same in their provisions as those in Japan. Furthermore the Government General, at the time of promulgating the Regulations, with the desire to obviate all unnecessary delay and trouble with lower grade officials and in consultation with the missionaries and the native pastors, adopted a certain form to expedite proceedings. The Regulations have, from the day of their enforcement until this day, worked smoothly with no untoward developments whatever. I may even mention that a certain missionary came to the Government-General, some time after the coming in force of the regulations, to tender his thanks, saying that the Regulations had

produced a good effect on the systematic control of denominational affairs. You, Sir, say that the missionaries are discontented with the Regulations. Discontented in what respect? I beg leave to ask you whether the complaints of the discontented missionaries are well founded on reason and logic. I should request you, Sir, to enlighten me on these points.

I again admit, this time, even with sympathy, that the Educational Ordinance and Regulations concerning Private Schools, on their promulgation, called forth discussion even among missionary societies and their associated bodies in far America, and that it was unquestionably a source of considerable inconvenience, even irritation to missionaries, who had been accustomed to taking whatever educational measures that pleased them before Annexation. But be it noted that education is one of the most important works of the State and it cannot but be subject to a fixed principle and law. Especially in a country like Chosen, where things are yet in an unsettled state, so important a branch of State work as education must not be left to whims and fan-

cies of individuals and different denominations. Sir, I wish to ask you whether you have ever heard of well-known Mr. Goucher, who on noticing the establishment in Chosen by the different denominations of their religious schools, with no system or unity to guide them before Annexation, called for the formation of a United Interdenominational Commission to be composed of the missionaries, holding that do-as-you-like policy was no way to educate a nation? The Commission was forthwith appointed, but was dissolved subsequently on the establishment of a unified educational system after Annexation. Thus it will be seen that the missionaries themselves must be well aware of the necessity of a well appointed principle and policy in conducting a national education.

Are you not aware, Sir, of the presence in Chosen of an influential missionary, who strongly and openly insists on the improvement of religious schools, he being of an opinion that there is a wide distance in the efficiency of teaching, training and management between private religious schools and the Government or public schools

in Chosen?

Do you know, Sir, that there are not a few Korean gentlemen, who are highly trusted by the missionaries, who possess great influence among Korean converts and who, nevertheless, own the imperfection of religious schools and are demanding their reform of the authorities?

The Government-General has no intention whatever to persecute religion. On the contrary the Educational Ordinance provides no restraint to whatever arrangements or accommodations for the spiritual uplifting of children, the Government-General being quite broad-minded on the matter, and I believe that this point is fully well understood by the missionaries. I may observe, further, that the Methodists and Presbyterians have from the beginning been different in their attitude toward the Educational Ordinance, the former being inclined to abide by the new system, while with the other, it is an unquestionable fact they are determined to follow up the old practice. I now beseech you, Sir, to enlighten me on which, the Methodists or the Presbyterians, are showing the best results in the work of education itself, and also as to whether

you have made careful enquires on the actual condition of private schools about the time of Annexation.

In the second place, you, Sir, assert that the missionaries's dissatisfaction against the Government-General régime naturally deepened their sympathy toward the Korean people, and then you proceed to blame the attitude of the Government-General toward the missionaries, charging the former with false accusations for holding the missionaries responsible for inciting the disturbances. You say, furthermore, that on becoming aware of the seriousness of the disturbances, the Government-General went on its knees to the missionaries and asked them to assist it in the restoration of order, and you charge the Government-General with consulting too much its own convenience. I shall avoid here giving utterances to my idea of the relations between the disturbances and the missionaries; but should seek to be informed of on what ground you assert that the Government-General, out of sheer helplessness, asked the missionaries to quiet down the disturbances. I myself know nothing of the alleged re-

quest. In so far as I know, there was such an incident, that on the provincial authorities, in obedience to the instructions of the Governor General, trying to reach the general public, to bring home to it the meaning of the instructions, the Mayor of Seoul called together the principals of public and private schools and besought them to explain the situation to their students and pupils and advise them not to be led astray. Thereupon some of the directors of Christian schools refused, on some ground, to carry out the wishes of the mayor. I am wondering whether your reference is to this event. Or can it be that you mean my visit to the house of the Rev. T. H. Smith of Japan Methodist Church, where, by his good offices, I had the pleasure of meeting, on the 9th of March last, some leading missionaries of Seoul, Pyongyang and Syenchon and of making frank exchange of views with them? For still another event I may recall that on the disturbances lasting long, with a tendency to intensify misunderstandings between the Japanese people and the missionaries in Chosen, a meeting was held in the Chosen Hotel under the auspices

of certain Japanese business men of Christian faith from Japan, for purposes of candid conversation between leading men of non-official circles interested in Christianity and missionaries in Chosen. Subsequently another meeting of a similar nature was held in the Chosen Hotel, this time on the initiative of certain missionaries. On this last occasion, the meeting was, I was told, attended by Directors Kokubu and Sekiya of the Government-General. Can this be, Sir, the incident to which you refer? I declare that at this or any other meeting no missionary was ever asked to pacify the disturbances. At one of the Chosen Hotel meetings one Japanese addressed the missionaries present to the effect that the people of Chosen, as the subjects of the Empire, should avoid all that would bring them to Courts of Justice for violating the law of the country, and was it not, therefore, the proper duty of the missionaries, who are the moral and spiritual guardians of their flock, to advise them not to tread on the wrong path? This brought on foot one of the missionaries present, who evaded the question by contending that they must in no way interfere because the

question discussed was a political one, (I may interpolate, here, that, as a matter of fact, the Roman Catholic missionaries and those of certain Protestant denomination, volunteered to counsel their followers not to make criminals of themselves by joining in the riots, with the result that hardly any of them were involved in the disturbances. In view of such actual instances, it is past understanding for me that the denominations represented at the meeting should have refused mediation of the kind.) Do you mean, Sir, to base your assertion on any of the occurrences I have enumerated above? If so I should draw your attention to the fact that none of the meetings was held at the instance of the Government-General, and that every one of them was promoted for no other purpose than to make frank exchange of views. I am persuaded, therefore, that there was certainly no such act on the part of the Government-General as requesting the missionaries to pacify the disturbances. Nevertheless you, Sir, boldly state that the Government-General made such a request and furthermore find fault with the attitude of the Government-General on the strength



of a remark of a certain missionary. I think, Sir, you are in honour bound to clear my doubts on these points. Thirdly, you, Sir, accuse the Government-General of illiberality and high-handed attitude toward the missionaries. You give a few instances to illustrate your charge but omit the rest on the excuse that they are too many to be enumerated. For my part I deem it possible that the police and other petty officials may have been guilty more or less of unnecessary harshness of conduct, being carried away by the impulses of the movement during the disturbances; but I believe that the Government-General, as such, was never narrow-minded nor coercive toward missionaries.

It goes without saying that it is perfectly proper for the Government-General to require of all missionaries the full observance of all rules and regulations for the proper control of the work of education, or of evangelization, and I do not hesitate to declare, without any fear of contradiction, that the Government-General has never been influenced by any sense of partiality or prejudice in facing religious activity within its proper province. Moreover it has

always made its principle not to refuse all reasonable assistance to any undertaking, which is judged to be of public benefit, irrespective of the denomination by which it is promoted. One instance to the point is the readiness with which the Government General some years ago accepted the proposal of the Rev. Mr. Wilson of Southern Presbyterian Church, in connection with the establishment of a lepers' home. The Government-General had under progress a plan to build a lepers' hospital on Shorokto Island off South Chonla Province. On hearing of this, Mr. Wilson, who was then conducting a similar institution at Kwangju, made an offer to amalgamate the two as one undertaking of his denomination. The Government-General, therefore, not only accepted at once the proposal, but offered on its side the use of the hospital buildings already put up free of rent and to entrust him with the conduct of the hospital, promising to subsidize him with the whole amount of money which it had been decided to spend annually on the hospital. The arrangement was rejected by the South Presbyterian Missionaries conference, on



the ground that it was inconvenient to have the hospital on Shorokto. None the less the incident will show that the Government-General is by no means narrow-minded. Again on the establishment of the Yunheui College in a suburb of Seoul, the Government-General endowed it with a large tract of building and forest land to facilitate and accommodate the construction of its school and other structures. That is another example of the Government-General's attitude toward Christian institutions. I do not feel it necessary to multiply these instances. I only wish you, Sir, to specify the ground on which you base your charge of illiberality against the Government-General.

I do not contend that the provinces are absolutely free from such instances as you quote. I think it probable that in some localities the police sit and examine the church buildings or those of a school belonging to it, and furthermore watch the doings of its pastor or teachers. But I cannot leap to the conclusion that this is a case of religious persecution. You are, no doubt, well informed, that churches and mission schools in Chosen are often

lent for purposes of political movement and of cultivating dangerous thoughts and ideas. Indeed, in the late disturbances, there were not a few instances in which churches and mission schools were made centres of agitation for law breaking. There was even a case in which the whole officers of a church and its school had to be put under arrest. The police visits and surveillance is never meant against religion itself but against political crimes which are not infrequently hatched in churches and their affiliated institutions. The Constitution of the Empire guarantees the freedom of religion, and the attitude of the Government-General toward religion is in no respect whatever different from what obtains at home in Japan. Only in Chosen religion has often been seasoned with politics, and this has not less frequently occasioned misunderstandings of people interested in religion against measures which are purely political in their purpose. I beg leave to press on you, Sir, to answer me whether you had examined all these points carefully before you thought it proper to charge the Government-General with

narrow-mindedness, coercion, and religious persecution.

In short, Sir, you contend that the missionaries never suggested or instigated the late disturbances, and plead that their intense sympathy with the people of Chosen has been mistaken for a kind of incitive activity. I myself hope fervently and wish to believe that, as you say, the missionaries were absolutely in no way mixed up in the disturbances. But permit me, Sir, to ask you what is it that you call intense sympathy? A perusal of your argument would only put one in a frame of mind to suspect that

there was subtle something that have kept the missionaries and the Chosen rioters in delicate communication with each other. Have I read correctly the mind of the missionaries and also of yourself? Pray say, what you think of this? You, Sir, are my old friend, and I have no desire whatever to pick a quarrel with you. Frankly, however, your statement lacks, as it appears to me, in clearness and I fear it may occasion misconceptions. It is my earnest hope, hence, that you will not take ill of my seeking a light from you.



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